



NEWSLETTER

VOL. 25, NO. 1

28th Annual Symposium



Academy for Sports Dentistry
presents

**“Red, Hot and New!
What’s Happening
in Sports Dentistry?”**

June 24-26, 2010

The Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City
1250 South Hayes Street
Arlington, Virginia
(703) 415-5000

www.academyforsportsdentistry.org

Send in your registration today!

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The Academy for Sports Dentistry, its officers and Board, are not responsible for the opinions, views or statements made in any essay, discussion or in the proceedings which are presented in *The Academy for Sports Dentistry Newsletter*.

The Academy for Sports Dentistry Newsletter is published tri-annually for its members. Comments and suggestions regarding the newsletter should be directed to Dr. Steve Mills, Editor.

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Dr. Emilio Canal

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E

Great things for 2010

2010 promises to be a great year for the Academy for Sports Dentistry (ASD) as our membership continues to grow and our exposure expands. Our winter board meeting was extremely productive as we finalized details for our new website, which was launched at the beginning of January. We have Ryan Salazar to thank for spearheading this project as well as Shelly Lott for helping in the transition from the old to the new. The new site (www.academyforsportsdentistry.org) is incredible! Ryan will give a brief "show and tell" of all that is now available for our members on the new website at our Annual Symposium in Washington, DC. You won't want to miss it!

Dr. Steve Mills was appointed as the new Director of the ASD Team Dentist course. Dr. Mills will be working with the faculty in updating our course that is scheduled to be presented at our 2011 symposium in Las Vegas. This year we will continue to work closely with the National Athletic Trainer's Association (NATA) as Dr. Jack Winters will be speaking as a representative of ASD at their Annual Conference in Philadelphia. NATA has informed us that they will be coming out early Spring with a statement supporting the Academy and recommending that dentists working in the capacity of a Team Dentist should be a member of the Academy for Sports Dentistry. We have also been asked by the American Dental Association to work with them as they are updating the standard 99 which is titled "Athletic Mouth Protectors and Material."

Our big news in 2010 is that the US Soccer Federation and US Lacrosse have recommended that mouthguards meet our guidelines of a "properly fitted mouthguard." These are the first two major sports governing bodies in the United States that have adopted this position. Also, starting in 2010 Major League Soccer is mandating that all Team Dentists in their league be members of the Academy for Sports Dentistry. This is the first professional sports league to take that stand. In the last five months there have been

numerous articles published dealing with sports dentistry. This shows the growing interest in our field. As you can see, there has been a lot of positive activity as the Academy positions itself as the major resource for Sports Dentistry.

With that being said, it is with great pleasure that I invite you to attend the 28th Annual Academy for Sports Dentistry Symposium to be held at the Ritz-Carlton Pentagon City, June 24-26, 2010. This is an outstanding location just minutes away from Capitol Hill, downtown Washington DC, Arlington National Cemetery, National Monuments and Smithsonian Museums. The hotel is located on the metro line which makes the nation's capital very accessible. Our General Chairperson, Dr. Michael Messina, has put together a terrific scientific program. Dr. Leslie Rye, our Local Arrangements Chairperson, along with committee members, have arranged many activities for the participants such as private White House tours and the ASD President's reception. The Silent Auction is shaping up to be one of the best with many signed sports memorabilia items including a Women's Professional Soccer (WPS) Washington Freedom Inaugural Season team ball signed by players Abby Wambach and Cat Whitehill, just to name a few. Other items include a 4 day/3 night stay at the Fontainebleu Hotel in Miami Beach, FL.

The Annual Symposium is one of the few opportunities for dentists from countries around the world to come together and share their knowledge, expertise, and enthusiasm in the treatment and prevention of dento-facial trauma in sports. I am sure this year's meeting will exceed everyone's expectations. For our members, I encourage you to bring a colleague and expose them to all that is new in sports dentistry.

I look forward to seeing you in DC,
Emilio Canal Jr, DDS, FASD
President ASD



Steve Mills, DDS
Editor

Editor's Column

Good or Bad: You Choose

Any friend or colleague who knows me well knows that one of my preoccupations is studying the concept of rules for mandating mouthguard use for sports that don't usually demand it. It is often said by parents of an injured child, "Why don't they just make it a rule?" While this is an understandable reaction to a specific event, history has shown that rules are often made but are just as often rescinded. Many excuses are used when justifying the reversal of a rule but it is my opinion that simple dissatisfaction with the comfort and wearability of mouthguards is at the root of most complaints.

Giving athletes well made, effective and comfortable appliances could possibly solve the problem but let's face it, most athletes still don't go to their dentist for a quality mouthguard. They chose to go to a retail store to purchase a convenient and inexpensive mouthguard. Even if they went to their dentist it is no sure thing that their dentist would know a good mouthguard from a poor one.

In the past few years a concept has arisen which could be a partial solution to the lack of availability of custom fitted mouthguards for large numbers of athletes. The idea I am speaking of is to allow the athlete to purchase a kit at a retail store (or by mail) which allows them to obtain a custom fitted guard without a dentist. This kit usually consists of a formable tray into which a "putty-putty" impression material is placed. The athlete then takes an impression of his or her own teeth. Once set the impression is mailed to a laboratory where the impression is evaluated and is either returned to "try again" or poured up in appropriate stone to fabricate a heat pressure laminated mouthguard.

This process is much less expensive and time consuming than the procedure of going to a dental office. The laboratories making the guards are usually well equipped and experienced in making hundreds of mouthguards. There are only two major flaws: 1) the inability to critically evaluate the fit and occlusion of the finished guard and 2) the lack of any dentist involvement.

I have been so negative for so long about any process that excludes professional dental involvement that my initial reaction is not very supportive. But I am still annoyed at the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association's recent change of their basketball rule from a mouthguard mandate to a "high recommendation." I can't help but think that if more athletes had access to custom fitted guards it would have helped.

I've seen the guards made by these labs and they are good quality heat pressure laminated EVA mouthguards of a variety of thicknesses. I wonder at the overall quality of the impressions but I've done enough hands-on workshops to know that even dentists don't always take nice impressions. Also, most of these labs have a policy that if the impression is not adequate they give the customer a second chance.

My biggest issue is that I have become convinced that the occlusion of a mouthguard should be evaluated before the player uses it. This may or may not be critical for everyone but as someone with a somewhat unique "bite" (deep overbite, minimal overjet and relatively short clinical crowns) I know that I usually have to adjust any mouthguard of any thickness for my personal use

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Good or Bad: You Choose

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before I am comfortable with it. The research out of Japan also informs me that it is possible to create a potentially hazardous situation for the mandible if the occlusion is not balanced.

I guess I feel that these mouthguards are not a bad thing. If the sport for which they are used needs mainly dental protection and doesn't demand solid occlusal support they are probably fine. If

one of my patients brought one to me to adjust I would gladly do it. In fact, I would encourage the manufacturers to strongly suggest this in their instructions. This will make custom fitted mouthguards available to many more athletes.

The bottom line is that I still don't think that a mouthguard can be made and delivered optimally without professional dental evaluation even if it is very well made. Anything less "might" be fine but then again it might not. What do you think?

News Briefs:

Major League Soccer Requirements for Team Dentists

Major League soccer in the United States has mandated that all of the sixteen teams require that their team dentists be members of the Academy for Sports Dentistry and that the dentists have completed the Academy's Team Dentist Course. This is the first known effort to establish quality requirements for dentists who call themselves team dentists. It has been common practice in most sports to recruit dentists who are willing to be affiliated with different teams but whose background in sports dentistry is limited or non-existent. According to Emilio Canal of the DC United Soccer Team of Washington DC, "This rule does not imply that team dentists who have no formal connection with Sports Dentistry cannot be excellent team dentists. Rather it is a move to insure that the athletic trainers and the medical staffs of the teams can be confident that the dentists have the basic background to know what being a team dentist means and have the ability to fulfill this role." The rule will take effect for the 2010 season. More information about major league soccer can be found at www.MLSnet.com.

NATA Publishes the ASD Trainer's Card

The November 2009 issue of the newsletter of the National Athletic Trainers Association, NATA

News, has published the content of the well known "pink trainers card" produced by the Academy for Sports Dentistry. The dual-sided laminated pink card titled "Emergency Treatment of Athletic Dental Injuries" has been recently updated but it has been a very popular and useful handout for athletic trainers, coaches, and school nurses since the mid 1990's.

The format in NATA News is a full page listing of the diagram and the recommendations for management of various dental injuries. The featured section is called "The Tip." This printing is an example of the close contact and cooperation between the ASD and NATA. Knowledge of dental injuries is an area in which many athletic trainers feel unprepared. This information gives them a handy guide to manage most injuries quickly and properly.

Used Heat/Pressure Forming Machines Wanted

A private dental lab is seeking used "Drufomat" machines to purchase. The price will be dependent on age and condition of the device. This could be an ideal time to upgrade your equipment to a new generation of mouthguard machine. For more information or inquiries contact the ASD at sportsdentistry@consolidated.net. Shipping will be arranged with the purchaser.

Academy for Sports Dentistry 28th Annual Symposium Program . . .

Red, Hot and New! What's Happening in Sports Dentistry?

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2010

7:30 am – 8:00 am	Registration/Exhibits/Continental Breakfast
8:00 am – 8:30 am	Welcome/Opening remarks Emilio Canal, Jr., DDS, FASD Michael Messina, DDS, FASD Mike Simpson, DDS, member of U.S. Congress, 2nd district Idaho
8:30 am – 11:30 am	Lecture: Current Trends in the Evaluation, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Concussion in the Young (student) Athlete Gerard A. Gioia, Ph.D.
11:30 am – 12:15 pm	Lecture: Pain, Suffering and Expense: The Unholy Trinity of Severe Dental Injuries David J. Kenny, DDS, PhD, FRCD(C)
12:30 am – 1:45 pm	Recognition Luncheon
2:00 pm- 3:15 pm	Lecture: Facial Blast Injuries Related to the Wars in Iraq and Afghanistan Michael Will, MD, DDS, FACS
3:15 pm- 4:00 pm	Lecture: Theory and Fabrication of Modern Properly Fitted Mouthguards Ray Padilla, DDS, FASD
4:00 pm	Adjourn
4:00 pm- 4:15 pm	Exhibits/Breaks/Silent Auction
4:15 pm- 5:45pm	Hands-on Fabrication of Pressure Thermoforming Appliances Workshop Ray Padilla, DDS, FASD (1.5 hours CE credit) (30 maximum)
4:15 pm - 5:45 pm	Photography Hands on Workshop Douglas Lambert, DDS, FASD and Fred Friedman (1.5 hours CE credit) (24 Maximum)

FRIDAY, JUNE 25, 2010

7:00 am – 7:25 am	Registration/Exhibits/Continental Breakfast Silent Auction Bidding
7:25 am – 7:30 am	Call to Order Emilio Canal, Jr., DDS, FASD / Michael Messina, DDS, FASD
7:30 am -9:00 am	Lecture: Trauma in the Aesthetic Zone: from Injury to Restoration H. Ryan Kazemi, DMD

9:00 am – 9:15 am	Exhibits/Breaks/Silent Auction Bids
9:15 am- 10:15 am	Lecture: Tooth is Loose-So Now What? Splinting Materials and Techniques Douglas Lambert, DDS, FASD
10:15 am – 10:30 am	Exhibits/Breaks/Silent Auction Bids
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	Lecture: Performance Mouthwear Forum Moderator: Stephen Mills, DDS, FASD
10:30 am – 11:00 am	Bite Tech/ Under Armour, Mark Roettger, DDS, FASD
11:00 am – 11:30 am	Pure Power Mouthguard, Anil Makkar, BSc, DDS
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Q&A
12:00 pm- 1:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Lecture: Trauma in Young Adult Teeth and Revascularization Martin Trope, DMD
4:15 pm- 5:45pm	Hands-on Fabrication of Pressure Thermoforming Appliances Workshop Ray Padilla, DDS, FASD (1.5 hours CE credit) (30 maximum)
4:15 pm - 5:45 pm	Photography Hands on Workshop Douglas Lambert, DDS, FASD and Fred Friedman (1.5 hours of CE credit) (24 Maximum)
6:00 pm –9:00 pm	President's Reception/Silent Auction/Live Auction

SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 2010

7:30 am – 8:30 am	Registration/Exhibits/Continental Breakfast
8:00 am	Call to Order Emilio Canal, Jr., DDS, FASD / Michael Messina, DDS, FASD
8:00 am- 8:45am	Annual Business Meeting
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Lecture: Sports Dentistry for Athletes with Disabilities Dennis Ranalli, DDS, MDS, FASD
9:30 am – 10:30am	Oral Presentations/Poster Presentations
10:30 am- 10:45 am	Exhibits/Breaks
10:45 am – 11:45 am	Lecture: Connecting with Cone Beam Terry Myers, DDS
11:45 am – 12:00 pm	ASD Website presentation Ryan D. Salazar, RDAEF, Dental Technician
12:00 pm	Closing Remarks

Academy for Sports Dentistry 28th Annual Symposium

JUNE 24-26, 2010 • ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

MEALS

Continental breakfasts on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings; lunch on Thursday and the reception on Friday evening are included in the full registration fee.

REGISTRATION BY MAIL

Registrations must be mailed along with your check or credit card payment to:

Academy for Sports Dentistry

118 Faye Street, P.O. Box 364, Farmersville, IL 62533 USA

Fax: 217-227-3438

Email: sportsdentistry@consolidated.net

REGISTRATION FEES

Checks must be in U.S. Funds. Credit card payments are accepted.

REFUND POLICY

A full refund, less a \$35.00 administrative fee, will be made up to three weeks prior to the symposium. No refunds after June 2, 2010.

☐ Special accommodations _____

Complete this form and mail with your check or credit card payment today! (please type or print)

Name _____ Title _____ Spouse If Attending _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Country _____

Office Number _____ Fax Number _____ E-mail _____

League / Team _____

League / Team _____

28TH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM - ACADEMY FOR SPORTS DENTISTRY, JUNE 24-26, 2010

2010 SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FEES (All Three Days):

☐ Members \$495.00 (14.5 CEU)

☐ Non-members \$595.00 (14.5 CEU)

☐ Hygienists, Dental Auxiliaries, Lab Technicians
Athletic Trainers \$295.00 (14.5 CEU)

*(Three Continental Breakfasts, Breaks, Recognition Luncheon,
and Presidents Reception are included in full symposium fee)*

☐ Students \$ _____ Complimentary
(meals are not included however tickets can be purchased separately)

WORKSHOPS

☐ Mouthguard Workshop \$65.00 _____ Thursday _____ Friday (1.5 CEU)

☐ Photography Workshop \$65.00 _____ Thursday _____ Friday (1.5 CEU)

Please check the day that you would like to participate in the workshop

Optional Events: The following event tickets are included in the full symposium registration, however extra tickets can be purchased for these events for students, spouses and guests.)

☐ Recognition Luncheon \$60.00 x _____ Tickets = \$ _____

☐ Presidents Reception \$70.00 x _____ Tickets = \$ _____

Optional Events: The following events are NOT included in the full symposium registration, however tickets can be purchased.

☐ Thursday, June 24, 210 White House tour and transportation \$25.00 x _____ Tickets = \$ _____

☐ Friday, June 25, 2010 White House tour and transportation \$25.00 x _____ Tickets = \$ _____

☐ Saturday, June 26, 2010 White House tour and transportation \$25.00 x _____ Tickets = \$ _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Academy for Sports Dentistry or check appropriate credit card:

☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard

Account # _____ Code _____ Expires _____

Name on Account _____

Billing Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

MEMBER BRING A COLLEAGUE

Any current ASD member who brings a non member to the 2010 ASD Symposium will receive **10% off** of their registration fee for **each** non-member that they bring. In addition, each non-member sponsored by an ASD member will also receive the 10% discount.

Referred by _____ ASD Member

_____ of non-member referred (see attached forms)

_____ % off of registration fee for non member referrals

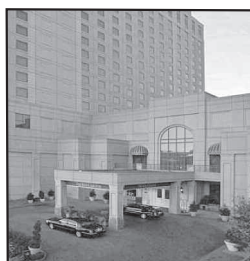
10% discount for non member who are attending with an ASD member.

In the event of a cancellation of a colleague you will be responsible for the 10% balance due on your registration fee.

Non member registration fee must be paid at the same time as the member registration fees.

HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Overnight accommodations at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel are available at a rate of **\$209.00 per night**. Please make your reservations directly with the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, **(703) 415-5000** or **(800) 241-3333**. Indicate you are attending the Academy for Sports Dentistry 28th Annual Symposium. Or you may make your reservations on line at **www.ritzcarlton.com** and entering the code ASDASDA. This special rate is in effect until **June 2, 2010**; however, we suggest you reserve early, as there is a limited number of rooms at the group rate.



Symposium registration fee \$ _____

Discount for referral program _____ % \$ _____

Additional tickets for optional events \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please return form as soon as possible to:

**28th Annual Symposium
Academy for Sports Dentistry**

118 Faye Street • P.O. Box 364 • Farmersville, IL 62533 USA

www.academyforsportsdentistry.org

Changes to the Constitution of the Academy for Sports Dentistry

The Constitution and Bylaws Committee brought several motions to the Board of Directors at the December 2009 board meeting amending the Constitution and Bylaws. The Board considered these amendments and voted to bring them to the membership for a vote at the annual meeting in June 2010. In accordance with Article XIII Section 1 of the ASD Constitution, any changes to the constitution must be published in the official publication of the ASD (The Newsletter of the ASD) "at least 60 days prior to the Annual Session of the Academy." The amendments are listed below.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE VI – OFFICIALS

Section 5. **Unscheduled Vacancies.**

Should the President of the organization be disabled or unable to perform his duties, his position shall be filled by the President Elect for the remainder of the unexpired term of his office. Should the President Elect be disabled or unable to fulfill his term of office, *the President shall appoint an interim President Elect for the unexpired portion of the President Elect's term.* This appointment shall be made from the members-at-large on The Board of Directors. *Shall the Secretary or Treasurer become disabled or unable to fill his term of office, the President shall make an interim appointment to fulfill the remaining portion of the term. This appointment shall be made from the members-at-large on The Board of Directors. In the event that there is no available members-at-large on The Board of Directors available to fulfill these positions, the office shall remain vacant and the additional duties assumed by the remaining officers until an election may be held for the purpose of filling the vacant positions.*

ARTICLE VIII - NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS.

Section 2. **Nominations by Petition**

Additional nominations may be made by a petition, signed by five **active** members of the organization **and the nominee** and received by the **Executive**

Secretary, at least ~~five~~ **fourteen** days before the annual meeting at which the elections take place.

BY-LAWS

CHAPTER V: COMMITTEES

Section 1. **Names and Number of Standing Committees.**

The organization shall have ~~seven~~ **eleven** standing committees designated as follows:

- A. Executive
- B. Constitution and By-Laws
- C. Membership and Credentials
- D. Research
- E. Publications
- F. Annual Session
- G. Nomination
- H. Past President/Strategic Planning**
- I. Student Affiliate Program**
- J. Special Olympics/Special Smiles**
- K. Fundraising**

Section 5. **Duties of Standing Committees.**

The following shall be duties of the standing committees of the organization:

- G. Nominating Committee. This committee shall make nominations for all elected officers of the organization. The nominating committee shall attempt to select its candidates on a diversified basis. The nominating committee will be composed of the immediate past president (chairman), the President Elect, **and the President** and will be in consultation with the rest of the Board of Directors.

CHAPTER VIII: ELECTIONS

Section 1. **Elections.**

Elections shall be held at the business meeting during the annual official session, at which time

Continued on next page

Changes to the Constitution

Continued from previous page

there shall be elected the President Elect for a one year term. There shall also be elected two directors of the organization for a three year term. The Secretary and the Treasurer will be elected at the same session on the years those terms fall due. The Secretary and the Treasurer will be elected for a term of three years and may be elected for ~~one~~ **two** additional three year terms.

Section 2. Nominations.

Nominations made in accordance with Chapter IV, Section VII, shall be made by the nominating committee whose list of recommended candidates shall be published and distributed to the membership prior to the annual official session. Nominations may also be made by ~~any active members of the organization~~ **petition** provided **that** such nominations are made in writing, signed by **five active members** and the nominee. ~~endorsed by two other active members, and delivered~~ **The**

petition must be received by to the Executive Secretary five fourteen days prior to the start of the annual meeting at which the election takes place in advance of the election. The list of all proposed candidates shall be posted by the **Executive** Secretary in a conspicuous place at the annual official session.

If you have any questions, please contact either:

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703/318-8200

ecanaljr@aol.com

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513/793-1977

DellaBella@wdbdentalhealth.com

Ms. Shelly Lott

217/227-3431

sportsdentistry@consolidated.net

The Board of Directors of the Academy for Sports Dentistry feels strongly that we should include our membership directly in the decisions of the Academy. We hope that you will exercise this opportunity to have your voice heard.

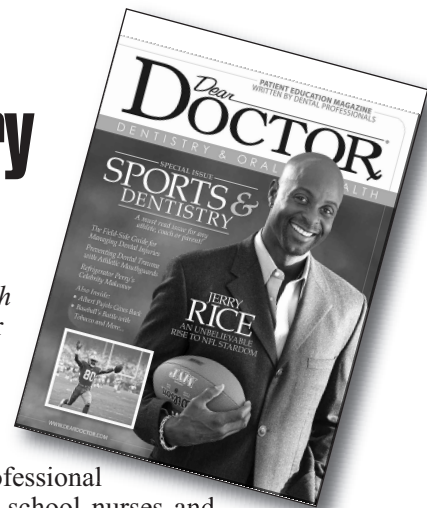
Issues of Dear Doctor Sports Dentistry Issue Available

The Fall issue of *Dear Doctor, Dentistry and Oral Health* magazine (Vol.3, Issue 4) focuses solely on Sport Dentistry. Dear Doctor is a magazine written by dentists which targets its articles to the general public. It does however, contain topics, which are of interest to doctors, hygienists and both medical and dental personnel. Several members of the ASD and the IADT were involved in the production of this issue and the result is a highly professional and useful resource to give to parents, coaches, athletic trainers, school nurses and athletes who have questions about the connection between sports and dentistry.

The publishers of the magazine are generously allowing members of the ASD to purchase this one issue without the necessity of being a subscriber. There are a limited number of issues available and when they are gone no more will be printed. Anyone may view the contents of the magazine by visiting their web site at www.deardocor.com.

There are many fine features of the sports issue but some of the highlights are the excellent graphics dealing with dental trauma and its treatment, a very useful article by David Kenny and Michael Casas on the field side management of dental trauma (accompanied by a field side management card which is available online), and articles about former professional athletes Jerry Rice and William "Refrigerator" Perry. Other topics covered are smokeless tobacco, an overview of dental trauma and several case reports of young athletes and their specific injury histories.

The Academy for Sports Dentistry has no financial connection with Dear Doctor Magazine but the Board of Directors has decided that in this case making the membership of the ASD aware of the offer by the publishers would be a benefit to our group. We are grateful to the publishers and recommend that our members go to the website to see this excellent issue.

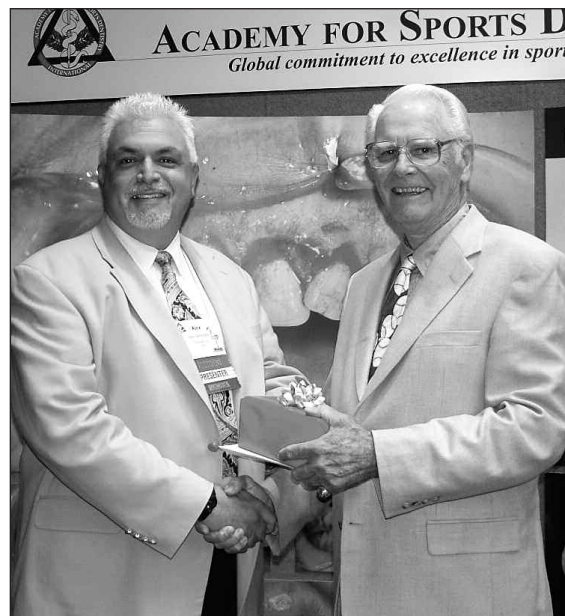


Doug Harvey, Major League Umpire and Advocate against Smokeless Tobacco, Voted to the Hall of Fame

Doug Harvey, former major league baseball umpire, was voted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York on December 7, 2009. Doug had an illustrious 31 year career as a major league umpire, which ranks him second only in longevity to Bill Klem in years of service and his 4,670 games is ranked third in major league history behind only Klem (5,374) and Tommy Connolly (4,769). He was ranked as the second greatest umpire in history by the Society for American Baseball Research in 1999 and in 2007 was named one of the 52 most influential figures in the history of sports officiating by Referee magazine.

In August of 1997 Harvey was diagnosed with throat cancer, which was attributed to his chronic use of smokeless tobacco. After his recovery he became a strong advocate against the use of smokeless tobacco addressing many different groups but especially to professional baseball players. He has spoken to the Academy for Sports Dentistry in Miami (2005) and Cincinnati (2004). His personal and very powerful message was very meaningful and important to the attendees of our annual sessions. His presentations also strongly emphasized that advocating against the use of smokeless tobacco is one of the key topics of importance to sports dentists in the U.S. His presentation to the Academy in Cincinnati was videotaped but at this time is not available for public access.

Doug's accomplishments on the baseball diamond are legendary but he also occupies a special niche within the field of sports dentistry. He is a man of powerful integrity and emotion. He and his wife Joy hopefully will allow members of the Academy



Major League Baseball Umpire Doug Harvey (right) is recognized by ASD member Dr. Alex Della Bella at the ASD Annual Symposium.

to call them friends. The Academy for Sports Dentistry congratulates Doug on this achievement, which is certainly the highest honor in the world of baseball. Alex DellaBella, treasurer of the ASD and the man responsible for connecting Doug with our organization said this about his induction: "I would like to congratulate Doug Harvey on his recent election into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. Doug has been a friend of the Academy for years now and I know of no one more deserving of this honor than him. His accomplishments over the years both on and off the field deserve the highest recognition. Major League Baseball and the National Baseball Hall of Fame are both fortunate to have this distinguished gentleman as one of their representatives."

