



Plano Pacers Running Club, Inc. Hall of Fame

The Plano Pacers Running Club was formed in 1978 by the City of Plano Parks and Recreation Department and a group of thirty local runners. The objectives of the Running Club were the promotion and encouragement of healthful jogging and distance running. The objectives were supported by stressing the fun and exhilaration of running and its contribution to physical fitness, weight control and health. The club was directed to stimulate and maintain motivation among runners by increasing communication among runners and prospective runners. The club's plan was to publish a newsletter, hold regular meetings, fun runs, races, running clinics and related programs. The club would also mobilize its influence to promote the development of trails, tracks and running support facilities within the city.

The Plano Pacers Running Club has successfully operated as a family-oriented organization for over three decades. A great number of runners and non-runners have contributed to meeting the objectives defined by the City of Plano and the founding members. Starting in 2009, the club established a Hall of Fame to recognize those individuals who have made significant contributions to the club.

The Plano Pacers Running Club would like to recognize James Royal for his outstanding contribution to the club. James has been a member for 16 years, having joined the club in 2000. He has been involved in managing the club almost from his first day as a member. He has served for six years as an officer. He was Treasurer for two years in 2002 and 2003. He served as President for two years in 2008 and 2009 and during 2011 and 2012 when the club could not find a candidate for President, James and Jerry Powell ran the club. James managed the club's move back to Bob Woodruff Park from Harrington Park. This was made difficult by the fact that city government was viewing the Parks Department as a profit center and the Parks Department was viewing the Pacers as a source of revenue. The Pacers could not have gone outside the club and hired a better person to represent them in this negotiation. James was also the driving force in starting the Hall of Fame which began in 2009. He also teamed with Turning Point to have a charity race for their benefit. The charity race was run in July from 2011 through 2014.

James is also an accomplished runner. His times are the envy of most runners. But what takes James to another level is that his times are run as a Clydesdale. He holds the Clydesdale club record for the mile at 5:12, for the 8K at 31:04 and for the 5 mile at 31:59.

Members like James Royal don't join the club every day, they are few. For all the reasons documented in this letter the Plano Pacers Running Club takes great pride in naming James Royal a member of the Plano Pacers Hall of Fame.

Charlie & Terry Gonzalez
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4-30-16
Date

President, Plano Pacers