# Don Shula

Dear Members of the National Football Foundation College Hall of Fame selection Committee,

I am writing in support of Howard Schnellenberger's selection as a member of the College Football Hall of Fame. I realize that Howard's 52% winning percentage does not meet the HoF minimum standard of 60%. I am also aware that there are currently thirty-one members of the Hall who do not meet this criteria. I urge you to consider him for election as a special exemption for the following reasons;

I had the privilege of working with Howard as a fellow assistant in 1959 at the University of Kentucky. We became fast friends as did our wives as we were both young coaches & husbands who were starting families together. When I took the Head Coaching position with the Miami Dolphins in 1970 I was thrilled to be able to bring in Howard as my Offensive Coordinator who coached the QBs, TEs, & WRs. We had unprecedented success going undefeated in 1972. Howard moved on to the Baltimore Colts as Head Coach in 1973 & 1974. I was thrilled have him return to the Dolphins as Offensive Coordinator from 1975 through 1978.

Howard left again in 1979 to pursue his Head Coaching dreams this time at the collegiate level where he shined throughout his storied career. He turned a moribund Univ. of Miami program into a national power while winning the national championship in 1983. From there he turned around another downtrodden program at the Univ. of Louisville and built a winner along with a football stadium.

His final coaching stop may have been his greatest enduring accomplishment. He started the football program at FAU, took them to a bowl game faster than any other program, and built another stadium. Howard 's record in bowl games is Hall of Fame worthy as he was undefeated in all six bowl games.

Howard was one of the finest coaches I ever worked with, coached against, and then admired as I watched him build and win at the collegiate level. He is a man of character, faith, & family whom I am privileged to call a life-long friend.

Please give Coach Howard Schnellenberger every consideration as he deserves to be in the College Hall of Fame.

Sincerely yours,

Don Shula

May 18, 2015
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