



For Immediate Release
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NFLRA CONGRATULATES ART MCNALLY ON BECOMING PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME FINALIST

WASHINGTON -- The NFL Referees Association congratulates Art McNally on being named a finalist for membership in the Pro Football Hall of Fame. If elected in 2022, it would make him the first on-field official to earn the honor.

“For decades, Art has represented the best that officiating is – he is a gentleman, and innovator and a leader, and he puts integrity above all else,” said NFLRA President Carl Paganelli. “This is an overdue honor. The NFLRA was proud to endorse his candidacy, and the entire officiating family looks forward to celebrating a historic moment with Art next year.”

Art was an NFL Field Judge in 1959 and Referee from 1960-1967, wearing No. 9 for the duration of his on-field career. He became Supervisor of Officials in 1968 and for the next 24 years set on the path to modernizing NFL officiating. He established a grading system, requiring that Playoff and Super Bowl assignments be earned through performance and merit based on an official’s entire regular season of work. After retiring, he continued to work with officials for two decades as an evaluator and observer.

“Art’s contributions to the NFL are unmatched, and he set the standard with over 52 years of service to the League,” said NFLRA Executive Director Scott Green. “Every official who sat in a locker room or rode on a post-game bus with Art can attest to his knowledge, dedication and steadfast commitment to helping officials improve.”

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