

August 24, 2023

Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame Selection Committee:

It is with tremendous honor that I write this recommendation for Scott Berry for induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame.

I have known Coach Berry for 27 years, since he was a head coach at Meridian Community College, where he built a national powerhouse, leading Meridian to the National Junior College World Series twice. Coach Berry then moved to The University of Southern Mississippi, where he served as an assistant coach and later became head coach.

During his fourteen-year tenure at Southern Miss, Coach Berry not only carried on the program's rich tradition of success, he has enhanced it. He has made USM Baseball a national contender year in and year out. As the head coach at Southern Miss, he guided them to the postseason 9 times, including 2 NCAA Super Regionals. Coach Berry won 5 regular season conference titles, 5 conference tournament championships: (4 C-USA, 1 Sun Belt), and was named coach of the year 4 times. I have competed against Southern Miss and Scott Berry for my entire career at Ole Miss. Not only were they well-coached and prepared, the players and coaches were great representatives of their university. His work at Southern Miss transcended baseball, and one would be hard-pressed to discuss sports in Mississippi without mentioning Scott Berry.

For those reasons and many more, I believe Scott Berry deserves induction into the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. If I can be of any more assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mike Bianco

Head Baseball Coach University of Mississippi

