

Thursday, August 5 at 5 PM PDT

Action Item: MSA that each year we honor a minimum of one Club of the Year from each of the following divisions: Regional Club and Local Club.

Chair Sally Dillon called the meeting to order at 5:06 pm. Also present were vice chair Hill Carrow, EC liaison Ed Tsuzuki, and committee members Norman Bower, AJ Block, Dan & Edie Gruender, Margie Hutinger, Katherine Longwell, Hugh Moore, Gail Roper, and Kelly Sharitt.

1. Ransom Arthur Award – The 2010 recipient of the award is Lynn Hazlewood. Lynn was presented with her award at a Reston Masters meeting held the weekend before Nationals. Unfortunately, her selection was made public prematurely but the other nominees were quite gracious and accepted an apology for the “false start”. Rob Copeland made the official announcement on the Friday of nationals. The formal presentation will take place at the convention awards banquet. Margie remarked that recognizing all past recipients at the National’s announcement is a nice touch.
2. Club of the Year Award – There are only 3 nominations this year and the members of the selection committee are in the process of selecting the winner. The R&A subcommittee met earlier this year to revise the COYA nomination form so it allowed the nominating clubs to better describe their programs and not pigeonhole them into perceived categories. The nominations should be judged more fairly as we can take into consideration better their differences.
3. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – There are 18 nominations and the members of the selection committee are in the process of selecting the 15 honorees.
4. National Championship Meet Award – The award is managed by Raleigh Area Masters and the Championship committee, not the R&A committee. Hill reported that 2 nominations were received by the July 1 deadline. They are from a pool meet and an open water event; this being the first time an OW event has been nominated. Since this award relates to national meets, we usually accept a nomination regarding the LC meet, which hasn’t taken place yet. Hill has forwarded the nominations to Jeff Roddin and has also been informed that Tom Boak is the Championship committee representative. A decision will be made mid-August.
5. June Krauser Communication Award – The award was conceived and administered by the Communications committee until the committee’s dissolution last Fall. The R&A committee inherited the award and Hugh Moore graciously agreed to take charge of the process. Hugh reported that there were 2 nominees, a recipient has been selected, and the award is being ordered. The selection committee consists of members of other dissolved committees so the process needs to be evaluated for the future. He and the selection committee will recommend changes, to be proposed at convention. Hill asked how many people were on the selection committee (5). Norm asked about the criteria (person/group who has had outstanding communication for the benefit of USMS). Hugh said the selection committee is satisfied with the current criteria.
6. Yorzyk Award - Sally participated in a conference call on May 27 with Ed Tsuzuki, Jeff Moxie, and Leo Letendre regarding the status of the award. Subsequently she provided a summary of the committee’s recommendation last year along with some additional clarifications. The Executive Committee met in June and agreed with the March 2009 decision that Mani Sanguili may continue the award at the National Championship level but it will not be an official USMS award. The award list may appear on a divider (or other) page in the USMS Rule Book and the award information has been passed on to the editor. Although two committee members were at nationals and prepared to help with the selection of this year’s recipient, neither Mani nor Leo were at the meet and no selection was made. To date, Sally has not been notified of a selection.

7. Club recognition – In July, a subcommittee (Sally, AJ, Nancy, Robert) reviewed materials and held a conference call to discuss expansion of the Club of the Year recognition. (The notes from that meeting and data from the National Office regarding club divisions and sizes was distributed to the R&A committee.) The group suggested we recognize clubs in two separate divisions: regional clubs and local clubs. We could also divide those divisions further by club size and recognize more than one club in a division. Sally pointed out that in her research for the R&A convention workshop (Volunteers at the Local Level), she discovered that clubs are not being recognized for their successes and accomplishments at the local level. She suggested that LMSCs could be recognizing clubs at their level and then they could recommend them for the national awards. The committee discussed the two-division format and agreed that it was a good idea. It was **MS that each year we honor a minimum of one Club of the Year from each of the following divisions: Regional Club and Local Club.** These divisions, defined by the National Office, are prepared for nationals each year. Discussion followed. Sally mentioned that the nomination form might need to become two separate forms to better allow for the differences between the groups. Gail had heard a rumor that our National Office (Rob Butcher) wants to dissolve regional clubs; Hill had heard something similar. Ed offered to enquire about this and get back to Sally with an answer. A vote was taken and **the motion passed unanimously.** The group discussed further whether we should set specific dividing points to allow for multiple awards in a division. For example, we could give three awards in the Local Club division: 250+ members, 100-249 members, and fewer than 100 members. After some discussion, it was agreed to stop at the original motion as it already gives us the flexibility to broaden the awards and we can look at the nominations to determine the dividing lines for size when necessary. Sally clarified that this motion will take affect next year for the 2011 Club of the Year Awards.
8. R&A workshop – “Recognition of Volunteers at the Local Level”, Saturday, September 18, 9:45-11 AM. Sally has been polling LMSC leaders to obtain information about the awards currently given at the local level. Reminders have gone out but there are still a number of LMSCs that have not responded. Sally provided a spreadsheet with the data and asked for volunteers to search for the information on LMSC websites. Norm volunteered for the first 10 on the list, Margie for Dixie zone LMSCs, and Dan for the last 10 on 1st page. Sally will send them details on what we’re seeking. The information accumulated so far has been very interesting and the recognition at the local differs significantly. Margie and Nancy originally volunteered to help at convention and more help is needed. AJ and Kelly stepped up and volunteered.
9. 2010 IMSHOF inductees - Walt Reid reported in absentia that USMS swimmers Lois Kivi Nochman and Richard Burns are the USMS honorees that will be inducted in September at convention.
10. The LMSC Development Committee seeks an R&A volunteer for a Membership Retention sub-committee. Margie Hutinger volunteered.
11. Sally explained that during the process regarding the David Yorzyk Award over the past 18 months, she has discussed with others that the R&A committee’s responsibility has generally involved service awards rather than performance awards. She offered a “head’s up” that the subject will be on the agenda at convention so we can discuss this and whether we want to propose legislation in 2011 to amend the committee description.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 pm

Minutes prepared by Sally Dillon

CONVENTION DISCUSSIONS

Committee responsibility – Service VS Performance Awards

Communication award – Changes in procedure and selection committee

M(Roper), S(Carrow), and Passed to approve these minutes in an Email vote.

