

Recognition & Awards Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards		
Committee Chair:	Megan Lassen		
Minutes by:	Sally Dillon	Date/time of meeting:	Sunday, March 29, 2020

Motions Passed with financial implications: none

Motions passed: none

Number of committee members present: 15	Absent: 1	Number of others present: 1
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Megan Lassen (Chair), Charis McCarthy (Vice Chair), Marcia Benjamin, Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Nadine Day, Barbara Deshler, Sally Dillon, Jack Groselle, Dean Hawks, Ray Novitske, Beth Nymeyer, Ginger Pierson, Nancy Ridout, and Laura Val. Also in attendance: Ed Coates VPLO		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Megan Lassen at 6:04 pm EST.

1. Introductions: Each committee member indicated their LMSC and other committees they serve on. Marcia (Pacific), Carolyn (Gulf, Rules), Rich (Pacific, H&A), Nadine (Indiana, BOD), Barbara (New Mexico), Sally (Pacific NW), Jack (Florida), Dean (Indiana), Megan (North Carolina) Charis (So. Texas), Ray (Potomac Valley), Beth (Minnesota), Ginger (Oregon), Nancy (Pacific, SSL, BOD), Laura (Pacific).
2. Sub-committee updates: Megan asked for a review of the sub-committee activity since the last meeting.
 - a. Ransom J. Arthur Award – Nadine reported that there were 11 nominees this year. Ballots have been sent to all voters, which includes our committee members and USMS members who previously received the award. 9 have not voted, including 7 from our committee (nearly half). She noted that the award was established in 1973 by Bob Beach and John Spanuth. A runoff might be required, depending on how the outstanding votes fall. The deadline to vote is March 31. The recipient will be recognized in the July/August issue of *Swimmer Magazine*. It is not determined yet where and how the ceremony will take place, but the policies allow plenty of flexibility. When asked, she said that additionally, an official announcement and/or presentation could take place at the Summer Nationals.
 - b. Club of the Year Award– Rich shared information about recent changes to the application process. No Regional Club was selected last year; there were a few nominations that fell short of the criteria. Some Local Clubs submitted photos, which wasn't previously allowed, but enhanced the entries. The subcommittee addressed problems with the entry criteria and the differences between the Regional and Local categories. The definition of regional was an issue. The documents were changed and have already been posted on the USMS website. Committee members were asked to review what is posted and Rich will distribute the "old" documents for comparison. Submit comments or suggestions to Megan by Friday, April 3.
 - c. June Krauser Communications Award – Nancy reported that she has received one nomination. Megan did not get copied and Ray noted that the award nominations have gone directly to Nancy for the last few years.
 - d. MISHOF Award – Rich reported that there was a strong movement to nominate Kerry O'Brien for the award. USMS President Peter Guadagni prepared the arduous form provided by ISHOF and the committee provided a supporting document.
 - e. Local Recognition – Charis and her committee have been working on a newsletter, which would be sent directly to LMSC leaders with information about recognizing volunteers at the local level. They hit a stumbling block when the National Office rejected the idea in favor of including information in *Streamlines*. Beth is going to contact the NO to share the subcommittee's concept. Charis learned from Ray that the committee has reached out directly to LMSC leaders in the past. Ed asked to be included in the correspondence. He also suggested that the information might be shared through the LMSC Development Committee's Peer-2-Peer conferences, or in the new forum platform that is being developed at the NO.
 - f. Nomination Communications – Dean will be working with the other members of the committee during the next week.
 - g. Webpage Bios – Ray reported: 1) a few more edited DDSA stories have been posted. There are 8 years remaining, including the 2 most recent years. He has nomination paperwork available for those years but nothing for the early

years (late 1990's). He would like to have more volunteers. 2) He wants to get the other awards populated. He has reached out to Nancy and a few others, requesting that they to provide nomination letters for the JK Communications Award they are managing. He will contact other committees requesting that they to provide bios for the awards they are managing. Sally offered to contact the Officials Chair about their awards, which are quite recent. Regarding MISHOF, Ray has copied the stories and captured photos from the MISHOF and ISHOF websites and posted them on the USMS Award page.

3. Megan suggested that we have a meeting on Zoom within the next week or so. We can share stories of what we are doing to keep busy in these gloomy times when we have no pools. The focus will be on social interaction rather than R&A committee business. She will send out an email to set up a date and time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:06 pm EST
