

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	Report #:
Committee Chair:	Ray Novitske	Vice Chair:	Megan Lassen
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	May 29, 2018 8:00 pm EST

Motions Passed:

--

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 0
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Ray Novitske (Chair), Megan Lassen (Vice Chair), Charis Anderson McCarthy, Marcia Benjamin, Carolyn Boak, Richard Burns, Chris Campbell, Nadine Day, Sally Dillon, Barry Fasbender, Lori Payne, Ginger Pierson, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val, Chris Colburn VP, Jessica Porter – ex officio, Onshalee Promchitmart – ex officio		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 pm EST

1. Roll call was taken and a quorum established.
2. Sally and Nadine gave a summary of the Ransom J Arthur Award this year.
 - a. Ed Tsuzuki was the 2018 recipient and was presented with the award in New Jersey along with some of his fellow teammates. The vote counting system worked well where the votes were tallied with first, second, and third places. There were three individuals not receiving a majority of votes that were very close in first place votes, but Ed received many more second place votes, indicating he would have been the likely recipient if a second round of voting took place.
 - b. The presentation at the Spring National Meet took place on deck before relay races. Acoustics were not good and there was very little attention to the presentation among the meet participants. Members believed the previous year's announcement time, when the announcement was made after warmups, worked best and will let the Championship Committee Chair know this preference for the future. Ed's information was given to the National Office media publications before the award was publicly announced to prepare a press release for announcement day.
2. Ray sent a list of years where completed and uncompleted bios for award recipients on the USMS web site were indicated. The remaining years, along with the June Kruaser and Club of the Year bios should be completed by the end of the year. He will send out requests for committee members to select remaining years to write up later.
3. Subcommittee members reported that the effort to increase recognition on the local level had its first task completed about a month ago.
 - a. Each zone was divided up and subcommittee members contacted the LMSC leadership with specific questions and information about the volunteer store and the social media hash tag. A good number of LMSC leaders were not responsive, as Ray's zone had only three out of ten LMSCs respond directly. However, in reviewing LMSC web sites, it was found that many do have service awards as the recipients are listed there.
 - b. Ginger reported that only two of her LMSCs responded. Each has a vibrant service award program and may not feel the need to participate in the subcommittee's work, explaining their lack of cooperation.
 - c. The subcommittee is now in phase two which involves reaching out to each LMSC leadership for a second time.
 - d. We have not yet heard from Kyle Derry about updates regarding sales from the volunteer store. The volunteer store is not meant as a source for service awards, but as a source for small token merchandise to represent acknowledgement, recognition, and gratitude for smaller tasks of service.
4. IMSHOF
 - a. Ray reported that Walt Reid's nomination was submitted for Honor Contributor again this year, and a response was received that last year's nomination material was still in effect and will be considered again. No resubmission was needed.
 - b. Laura reported that Carolyn, Ginger, Rich, and Walt Reid discussed methods for qualifying future nominees for IMSHOF. Proposals were developed and submitted to IMSHOF for consideration. It was not known if IMSHOF has a timeline or method for considering the proposals. Nadine reported the IMSHOF has a new Board of Directors as of last week.
5. Annual Service Awards - Ray recently sent a list of committee members assigned for evaluation of each award this year to the committee. There are requirements that still need to be met for participation of evaluators from outside committees. Nominations are due July 1. It was also noted that a link to the committee's operating policies on the new web site was a dead link. Jessica reported that there were some missing materials after the move from the old server to the new server, and

agreed to get it fixed. Ray mentioned that he ran across a few other dead-end links throughout the site, and will send to Jessica for fixing when encountered in the future.

- a. June Krauser Communications Award - Nancy reported that no nominations have been received to date. Ray will review requirements for makeup of the evaluation subcommittee to be sure we comply. We will need one more evaluator from another USMS committee. Nancy will resend a list of possible candidates for Ray to contact.
 - b. Club of the Year Award – Laura reported that there have been no nominations received to date. Laura will contact last year’s nominees that were not selected to request a refresh of their nomination and a follow up nomination this year. Chris Campbell will contact the Coaches Committee to provide an evaluator for the subcommittee. We will need one more evaluator from the Fitness Committee, so Ray will reach out to the Chair.
 - c. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – Ray reported that five nominations have been received to date. There are members of the committee that feel a revision of the DDSA nomination form is necessary, and will follow up with suggestions for committee comment in the coming months (see below).
6. New initiatives
- a. Sally observed that many nominations for DDSA have limited specific information to use while preparing bios for the web site. This year Ray will review the nomination letters as they come in and contact nominators to ask to address any shortcomings relating to the qualifications and impact on Masters Swimming. We will also look at discussions and options the coming months in preparation for our next conference call at end of summer. The June Krauser Award nomination materials were updated earlier this year and were posted as were the new Officials Award materials.
 - b. There will be a LMSC Development Committee Peer-to-Peer Conference call with LMSC representatives on July 10 for the topic of “Recognition & Awards at the Local Level”. It was requested that Megan and Ray attend to add insight. Nadine recommended Cathy Kenner be present too, based on the work her subcommittee has been doing. Ray suggested all committee members attend the call.
7. We will write press releases again for the award recipients to be ready to send out at the award announcements during the convention. We will make assignments for that task at the next conference call, as well as for the task of helping with the convention slide award presentation.
8. A brief discussion and comparison of how LMSCs make selections for convention delegates was held, and whether is was considered a recognition to be selected.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 pm
