

## U.S. Masters Swimming

**Committee Name:** Recognition & Awards

**Committee Chair:** Elizabeth Nymeyer

**Minutes recorded by:** Sally Dillon

**Date/time of meeting:** January 22, 2023, 6 pm CST

**Actions taken:** MSA to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2022, meeting.

**Number of committee members present:** 10

**Absent:** 3

**Guests:** 0

**Attendees:** Stacy Abrams, Rich Burns, Hill Carrow, Sally Dillon, Nancy Kryka, Michael Moore, Ray Novitske, Beth Nymeyer, Elise Shank, Ed Coates (VPLO)

**Absent:** Michael Hillemonds, Mary Jurey, and Nancy Ridout

Chair Beth Nymeyer called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm CST.

She welcomed new members and asked that they introduce themselves and include the following information: how many years on the committee, what we like best about the committee, and our favorite swim event.

Beth – 3 or 4 years, likes meeting new people, 50 free.

Stacy – new (previously on LMSC DC), passionate about awards and recognition, 200 bk.

Sally – R&A since 2007 (previous chair and VC), enjoys recognizing volunteerism, distance free.

Ray – R&A since Sally was chair, can use his talents, 50/100 breast.

Hill – 4-5 years, enjoyed being on the committee before and was a VC, hot shower after workout.

Rich – since Ray was chair, can contribute with his skill set, backstrokes.

Michael M – member in 2021, reward those who put in the time to support USMS, distance free.

Nancy K – 2<sup>nd</sup> year, likes recognizing those who contribute, 50 free.

Elise – new to R&A, previously on coaches, enjoyed working on subcommittees for recognition in LMSC.

Ed thanked everyone for volunteering and reported on the Executive Committee Goals for our committee.

1. Standardize the Google forms for award applications.
2. Form a subcommittee to a) inventory all USMS awards and determine what is given by each group and, b) evaluate award programs in place and recommend if any should be discontinued.
3. Form a subcommittee to revise the presentation sequence for the RJA award.
4. Form a subcommittee to develop the procedure and process to make MISHOF nominations.
5. Continue to promote and encourage volunteer recognition. Conduct a “best practices” webinar.

Ray asked if the board has discussed rearranging the schedule for the award presentations (i.e., at the Relay vs Annual Meeting)? Ed replied that they have not but noted that the announced schedule includes an in-person meeting in 2023 and a completely virtual meeting in 2024.

Stacy asked what is the rationale for using Google forms instead of others? Ed said he is open to other suggestion if they work better. Stacy cautioned against having a form tied to someone’s Google account.

Michael asked about having a different sequence for RJA award since nationals, local, annual meeting, etc can get clunky. Should there be everything at one time? Currently, it stretches out for a long period of time. Ed said it might be difficult to make sweeping changes for 2023 but more possible for 2024. The board wants a recommendation from the committee.

Meeting minutes: it was MSA to approve the minutes of the November 27, 2022, meeting.

Upcoming meeting: The next meeting will take place on Sunday, March 12, at 6 pm central time.

### Subcommittee assignments and projects for 2023

Awards that are the R&A Committee's responsibility:

1. Ransom J. Arthur M.D. Award (RJA): Michael M (lead), Sally, Hill, and Nancy Ridout. Discuss venue for awarding RJA award and bring a proposal to the committee.
2. June Krauser Communications Award (JKC): Nancy Ridout (lead), Nancy K, Elise, and Rich.
3. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award (DDSA): Beth (lead), Stacy, Peter Guadagni, Nancy K, and Ray
4. Club of the Year Award (COYA): Mike Hillegonds (lead), Mary, and Stacy
5. Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame (MISHOF): Sally (lead), Hill Carrow, Nancy Kryka, Rich Burns. Rich reported that the previously mentioned December date is for submitting nominees to ISHOF, not MISHOF. His contact will let him know when the deadline is for MISHOF nominations. While our committee tries to nominate candidates, anyone can nominate someone from anywhere in Masters swimming. We need to have a conversation with USMS about their endorsement. His ISHOF contact was to meet with Dawson Hughes last week regarding a location to have the induction and Rich hasn't heard how that went. Options being considered were LCM nationals or the Annual Meeting. It might be in Dawson's hands. Rich was invited and has accepted a position on the MISHOF selection committee. Beth suggested that he be a liaison to the Hall of Fame. Sally asked Rich to find out how it is determined who sits on the MISHOF.
6. Peer to Peer Webinar: Beth (lead), Elise, and Michael M will organize the 3/30/23 event. Beth asked for suggestions for the topic.
7. Social Media Outreach: Elise, Mary, and Michael M will determine which direction to take. A lead for the subcommittee was not stated.
8. Outreach/Email Effort in May: Nancy K, Mary, and Stacy. Everyone can contribute to this project.
9. Awards video: Beth (lead), Stacy and Ray. Sept 1st the deadline. Hill committed to doing the DDSA poem this year.
10. Stories (bios) about award winners: Ray (lead), Nancy K, and Sally. Sally reported that the RJA, DDSA, JKC, and COYA stories are finally complete. Information about the 2006 Club of the Year Award was found by Mel Goldstein, so the final missing story has been written. Ray reported that the Coaches committee has assigned someone to start writing stories and that Mary Jurey offered last year to do the Fitness stories. R&A needs to work with the other award-giving committees to provide guidance, and editing (if needed), but the committees need to gather information and write their own stories.
11. Awards Form Standardization: Stacy (lead); others are needed to help. Ideally, the same format can be used for all awards, but some will require a lot more information. Use the same type of process as a standard. Aliases can be used for submissions. Two issues to consider: information on the form, and privacy and security of information. RJA will use last year's format; there isn't time to revise it.

12. Awards at the LMSC's level (new project): Michael M (lead) and Michael H. Sally will share information from the two previously completed surveys. The subcommittee also needs to determine if LMSC awards are using proper USMS branding.
13. USMS Awards Overview (new project): Beth (lead), Stacy, and Sally. Evaluate the awards that are already being given. Also determine what physical awards are being given. Nadine Day started this last year and has shared her research with Beth.

Use of the USMS forums was discussed briefly and it appears that many on the committee prefer to use email for discussions.

It was MSA to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm CST.