

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	1
Committee Chair:	Megan Lassen		
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	7/7/2019 7:00 pm ET

Actions Taken:

1. NA

Number of committee members present:	14	Absent:	3	Guests:
Committee members present: Megan Lassen (chair) Ray Novitske (vice chair), Marcia Benjamin, Nadine Day, Christine Maki, Elizabeth Nymeyer, Ginger Pierson, Laura Val, Charis Anderson McCarthy, Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Sally Dillon, Sonny Nguyen, Lori Payne, Nancy Ridout, Chris Colburn (ex-officio)				
Not present: Ashley Braniecki, Dawn-Ann Dykes, Cathy Hallman-Kenner				
Guests:				

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm ET.

1. Minutes from the 1/24/19 meeting were approved.
2. Ransom J. Arthur Award Report. This year there were eight nominees and 41 eligible members that voted. Jeff Roddin was the recipient and was presented with the award at the Spring National Championship meet. His nomination was submitted by the Championship Committee and not by his LMSC. Patty Miller presented the award at the meet. The presentation went very well. Jeff knew of his selection before the presentation – someone in the National Office inadvertently let the secret out. Because there was no video screen at the meet facility, Nadine arranged for numerous flyers to be posted announcing the award. Sandi Rousseau assisted with the distribution of the flyers. The press release and announcement of the award was not in a prominent place on the USMS web site. Most everyone who saw it, including the recipient, reported having difficulty locating it.
3. An inquiry about the process of renaming their award was received from the Open Water Committee. The chair of the committee has indicated that the name change was brought up at his committee meeting, but that no decision on the name change has been made.
4. Club of the Year Award. Laura reported that she did not receive the nominations yet. Megan will resend. There were three local award nominations and one regional nomination this year. Discussion ensued on accepting a specific nomination after the deadline passed, but it was realized that the nomination in question was submitted and received by the deadline. VP of Operations Chris is on the selection committee, and there is no policy that prevents him from voting for a nominee.
5. June Krauser Communications Award. Nancy reported that there are three nominations this year compared to six from last year. The committee policy states that the selection committee shall include at least three members from other committees. Ray will wait to hear from Nancy on conflicts of interest from other possible members and will recommend other committee members so there is no possible conflict.
6. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award. Ray received the nomination materials and posted them to an internal web page for review by the voters.
7. Web Site Award Recipients' Bios. Authors for the remaining DDSA recipients' bios are having difficulties in finding information for some of the earliest people recognized. A list of the past recipients that do not have much information will be sent to all subcommittee members writing so that they may be able to help one another with information. It was noted that the History and Archives Committee had agreed to help find information once we have exhausted all other methods.
8. International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame.
 - a. As noted at the last meeting, the committee discovered that the deadline for Honor Contributor nominations to the Hall was moved forward by two months, leaving insufficient time for the committee to select a nominee. It was also mentioned that Jim Miller had been nominated for the honor by Mel Goldstein. At the time, there was concern that Mel had not gone through the R&A committee. Nadine subsequently clarified that although the nomination was submitted by Mel, it was made on behalf of the UANA committee and, his nomination was submitted in October, long before we became aware of the change in deadline to nominate.
 - b. The members of our committee who had submitted suggestions to IMSHOF about athlete award qualifications for selection reported that no action on their recommendations is known.

9. Increasing Nominations. This subcommittee will develop a strategic plan to contact LMSCs with lists of awards and deadlines. Contact will be more direct and personalized than in the past.
10. Volunteer Store – Local Recognition.
 - a. After discussions with Kyle Derry earlier in the month, it was decided to take the volunteer store down. Even though it was advertised at conventions, in Streamlines, and through our committee, it was not used much by LMSCs. Some unsold merchandise with shelf life expired was discarded, and the supplier was only receiving orders for about 20% of what our estimated sales were. We received no complaints on the selection of merchandise available.
 - a. Sally reported problems paying for merchandise through PayPal, and the issues are not yet resolved. She is awaiting a bill from the vendor for the merchandise.
 - b. It was noted that some LMSCs would prefer to place a volunteer logo along with their own logo and identification on merchandise. Kyle was concerned with improper use or display of our logo if it is handled and used by local entities.
 - c. Plans for a regular volunteer recognition newsletter to be sent to LMSCs were discussed. An outline was recently sent to subcommittee members for review and comment.
11. Press releases for the award recipients at the convention will again be written. Last year, the National Office publications reviewed and edited these before they were sent out. Assignments for writing these will be made at our last committee teleconference call in August before the convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm ET.