

Awards Meeting Minutes, 3-30-25, Submitted by: Committee

The meeting was called to order by Beth at 7:00 PM EDT.

Committee members present: Elizabeth Nymeyer, Tara Mack, Michael Moore, Jessie Feng, Caitlin Gagnon, Nancy Ridout, Crystie McGrail, Shannon Linsey, Nancy Nevid, Rich Burns, Sara Dunn

Committee members Absent: Amy Wagner, Daniel Paulling, Hill Carrow, Ann Marshfield

Welcome and Approve minutes. The 2-16-25 meeting minutes were updated for MISHOF Diann Uustal and Committee members corrections. Beth moved to approved. Nancy Ridout 2nd. The meeting minutes were approved.

Quick recap

The committee discussed scheduling their next meeting and addressed various administrative issues, including email communication problems and committee assignments for different awards. They reviewed and proposed modifications to award nomination forms, focusing on aligning criteria with USMS's mission and strategic priorities. The group also planned strategies for promoting award nominations through social media and direct communication with local organizations, designating responsibilities for these tasks and discussing potential challenges.

Next steps

- Michael to update the RJA nomination form with the revised wording for "other areas of service" and add question numbers.
- Beth to send out a survey for the next meeting date/time options for the first week of May.
- Beth to add Hill to the DDSA award committee and confirm with him.

- Beth to start an email chain with Tara, Jesse, Ed, and Jessica regarding award forms.
 - Caitlin to lead the social media and direct outreach efforts, including updating contact lists and creating shareable content.
 - Beth to share old outreach forms and information with Caitlin.
 - Caitlin to prepare PNG or JPEG versions of social media tiles for easy sharing.
 - Social media and direct outreach subcommittee (Caitlin, Tara, Shannon, Rich) to prepare outreach strategies and content for the May 4th meeting.
 - Nancy Nevid and Beth to work on award bios.
 - All committee members to review their calendars for availability during the first week of May for the next meeting.
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Summary

USMS Committee Schedules Next Meeting

The committee discusses scheduling their next meeting, tentatively setting it for May 4th at 6 PM Central time. They address issues with email communications, with Nancy Ridout noting she hasn't been receiving USMS updates. Christy explains privacy law changes require opting in to emails and offers to help Nancy resolve the issue. Michael emphasizes the importance of meeting earlier rather than later due to upcoming award nomination deadlines. The group also confirms subcommittee assignments for the Ransom J. Arthur Award, with Michael leading the subcommittee along with Nancy and Rich.

Ransom Arthur Award Nomination Form Changes

The committee discusses modifying the Ransom Arthur Award nomination form. Michael proposes adding a question about how nominees contribute to USMS's mission, vision, values, and strategic priorities. The committee agrees this can be added to an existing question on the form. They debate how to word it to allow for contributions over many years, given the award's long-term focus. The group decides to make the new criteria optional by using "and/or" language. They plan to finalize the wording and vote on the change, aiming to update the form by April 1st.

Committee Assignments and Award Ceremony

Local led a meeting where they discussed various committees and their members. Michael was tasked with revising a document, which would be shared in the chat for voting. Rich confirmed the dates for the award ceremony for the masters, which was to be held on September 12th and 13th in Fort Lauderdale. Nancy and Caitlin were assigned to the June Krauser committee, with Caitlin and Jesse tasked with learning from Nancy. Nancy suggested Hill as a potential member for the committee.

Assigning Committee Members for Awards

The group discusses committee assignments for various awards, including the June Krauser and Club of the Year awards. Rich is assigned to the June Krauser committee, which will have an odd number of members. Nancy explains that the June Krauser committee needs to be available in early July to review nominations and vote quickly. For the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award, the chair, vice-chair, and Sarah are confirmed as committee members, with Hill potentially joining to assist with poetry. The local organizer mentions needing to review bylaws to confirm the exact number of committee members required for each award.

Nomination Form Changes for Club Award

The team discussed the nomination form for the club of the year, with Michael proposing to replace other areas of service with other areas of interest relative to US Master Swimming's mission, values, and strategic priorities. The team agreed to make this change, with Sarah Dunn seconding the motion. The team also discussed the need for numbered or lettered forms for better flow.

Awards Committee and Club Volunteers

In the meeting, the team discussed the need for additional members for the Club of the Year committee, with Tara and Local volunteering. They also discussed the Awards Committee, with Hill being considered for a role. Nancy volunteered to help with award bios, and the team agreed to handle this task. The team also discussed the need for award forms, with Tmac and Jesse potentially taking the lead on this. The team agreed to discuss this offline and include Ed and Jessica in the email chain.

Social Media Outreach and Local Engagement

The committee discusses plans for social media outreach and direct communication with local organizations to promote awards nominations. Caitlin is designated as the point person for coordinating social media content and distribution. The group reviews past strategies, including using a spreadsheet with LMSC contact information, but notes challenges with outdated email addresses. They consider alternative methods like using community forums and reaching out through LMSC development channels. The committee also plans to prepare easily shareable social media assets. Lastly, three members mention their upcoming participation in an open water swimming event at "Gator Pond."

MEETING ADJOURNMENT 8:09PM EST By Beth