10 USMS R&A Committee Minutes & Meeting Notes 10-18-26, 7:30 PM ET
2026 Recognition & Awards Committee US Masters Swimming

Committee Name: Recognition & Awards	October 18, 2026 Meeting
Committee Chair: Tara Mack "TMack"	Vice Chair: Caitlin Gagnon
Minutes recorded by: TMack & Zoom	Meeting Date/Time: 10/18/2026; 7:30pm ET

Actions Taken: R&A Policy Review and Addendums as applicable

Number of committee members present: 10 **Absent:** 5 **Guests:** 0

Committee Members Present: Tara Mack "TMack" (Chair); Caitlin Gagnon (Vice Chair); Sara Dunn; Ann Marshfield; Hayley Martin; Michael Moore; Beth Nymeyer; Nancy Ridout Crystie McGrail (VPLO)

Committee Members Absent:
Rich Burns; Hill Carrow; Emily Cook; Jane Moore; Dan Underbrink; Dan Pauling (Ex-Officio)

Guests:N/A

Action items: R&A Policy Review and update

1 Welcome & Call to order 7:32 pm ET
TMack takes attendance manually, so no need for a formal Role Call.

2 Crystie: VPLO noted that Oct 7 was the deadline to apply for Committees for 2027. She mentioned to send Ed a message if you missed the email. Ann Marshfield mentioned that she saw it in Streamlines and that it came out after the deadline. Note is to message Ed if needed.

3 Minutes: TMack shared that Sept 20th minutes were posted. TMack encouraged everyone to give them a read through and even provide her with a simple thumbs' up. Much appreciated.

4 Past business:
a R&A Committee still needs to update the 2026 Bios for website
b TMack inquired with Caitlin about the final 4 recipients so they could be added as an additional service awards video and asked if Caitlin needed anything to complete it. She doesn't have the bio / blurb yet for one of the latest recipient's awards. We will contact the national office to receive the nomination itself to complete the final bio for the extra video. To be added: Coach of the Year, RJA, Club of the Year, DEI Recipient. New names shared with D Pauling.
c TM Reached out to other committee chairs (not all yet) to plan multiple committee discussions.

5 New business:
a Proposal from Ann Marshfield. Great discussion ensued. Will be continued. Provided great ideas to update the Fitness Award. Further information to follow. No details to share at this time.

b Amendments and discussion. (PDF attached to email). Will divide into subcommittees to review policy update proposals. Then we will pair up subcommittees to swap updated policies and read them. While reading, we will scan to see if anyone could pick them up and implement them. This will occur offline and we will have a quick update at the November meeting, likely the final R&A meeting of the year. Document process and policies for each subcommittee and perform the “stress test” and tweak as necessary. TMack will distribute the documents to the paired groups. Final discussion in November.

6 Questions / Comments / Other
Crystie McGrail: “Just another thank you again for all of the amazing work that you guys put into this committee. It really is appreciated, and the level of detail that you guys take in recognizing and awarding our volunteers, I think, is super important. So, thank you.”

TMack: Thanks Crystie! Thanks all!! Great work all!

7 Motion to Adjourn at 8:23pm by Ann Marshfield. Seconded by Nancy Ridout. All agreed.

Meeting Summary
The meeting focused on reviewing and updating the policies and processes for the USMS recognition and awards committee, and the Fitness award received additional focus. The committee discussed a proposal that led to great conversation about various contributors. The conversation ended with a plan to review and revise the policy document in subcommittees and partner up with one other subcommittee to do a ‘stress test’ before having a final approval process at the November meeting.