11 USMS R&A Committee Minutes & Meeting Notes 11-15-26, 7:30 PM ET

2026 Recognition & Awards Committee US Masters Swimming

Committee Name: Recognition & Awards	November 15, 2026 Meeting
Committee Chair: Tara Mack "TMack"	Vice Chair: Caitlin Gagnon
Minutes recorded by: TMack	Meeting Date/Time: 11/15/2026; 7:30pm ET

Actions Taken:
1 Amend R&A Policies
2 Approve 3 year cycle for R&A Nominations

Number of committee members present: 9 **Absent:** 6 **Guests:** 0
Committee Members Present: Tara Mack "TMack" (Chair); Caitlin Gagnon (Vice Chair); Rich Burns; Hill Carrow; Sara Dunn; Ann Marshfield; Michael Moore; Nancy Ridout; Dan Pauling (Ex-Officio)

Committee Members Absent:
Emily Cook; Jane Moore; Hayley Martin; Beth Nymeyer; Dan Underbrink; Crystie McGrail (VPLO)
Guests:N/A

1 Welcome & Call to order 7:34 pm ET
TMack takes attendance manually, so no need for a formal Role Call.

2 Crystie (absent) via email: VPLO noted that STEAMLINES will be moving to SLACK. TMack asked Daniel Pauling if there is a LMSC Chair & Vice Chair SLACK channel, regarding nomination request outreach. He said it's only for volunteers as a whole and not the entire USMS organization. R&A will continue to message LMSC leaders for nominations.

3 Minutes: The Oct 18th minutes were approved and posted.

4 Past business:
a Policies review and amendments approved; RJA and M/ISHOF final updates via email. TMack will send the final document to the national office for posting to the website before Dec 27, 2026.
b R&A Committee still needs to update the 2026 Bios for the website- will coordinate via email.
c TMack thanked Caitlin for adding another recipient and that the whole video is almost done for the 5th iteration. This is another reason in addition to proper celebrating and recognition, to announce all recipients in August at the same time. Caitlin will complete this task this weekend.

5 New business:
a Adding a 3 year cycle for all R&A service award nominations with the option to withdraw nominations and update information from the past year as needed and desired. Motion made by Caitlin Gagnon; Sara Dunn seconded. Approved.
b TMack will communicate this with all service award chairs and vice chairs, some committees may already do this.

c Continue to complete bios on recipients, especially KOB. Laurie Hug reached out to coordinate requests. TMack to follow up and will email committee members to work on 1-2 bios before December 22nd, 2026.

6 Questions / Comments / Other
AWESOME work all! Thank you so much!!
Sara Dunn thanked TMack for her work and organizational efforts. The committee agreed. TMack thanked the committee and reiterated how much we accomplished this year and hopes to see everyone next year.

7 Motion to Adjourn at 8:32 pm by Sara Dunn. Seconded by Hill Carrow.

Meeting Summary
The meeting focused on reviewing and updating the policies and processes for the USMS recognition and awards committee, including adding that nominees will be kept in a 3 year cycle (the current year plus 2 subsequent years) to benefit the members, organization, and committee. Amendments were made and clarity was reached. Two outstanding items will be edited and completed by email. The committee worked well together and completed many important tasks and can be proud of the work spent toward their goals. This was the last meeting of the calendar year for the 2026 R&A Committee. Job very well done.