

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Ray Novitske	Vice Chair:	Megan Lassen
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	Nov 14, 2016 8:00 pm EDT

Motions Passed:

1. --

Number of committee members present: 10	Absent: 4
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Committee members present: Ray Novitske (chair), Megan Lassen (vice chair), Rich Burns, Chris Campbell, Nadine Day, Sally Dillon, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Lori Payne, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val, Chris Stevenson (EC vice president), Tracy Grilli (ex officio)

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m. EDT.

1. Communications within our committee was outlined. The recognition-committee@usms.org email address can be used to send to all members of the committee. USMS has updated the online discussion forum for current committee members. After logging in to the web site, our committee's forum will be visible. We will schedule two more conference calls during the year, and might have one more after the holidays since this call will be short.
2. Rather than initiate new projects this year, we will concentrate on improving the quality of and polishing up the initiatives we have instituted from previous years.
 - a. Increasing nominations – Previous year's efforts have worked for some awards. We could contact past nominators at mid year and encourage them to update their nominations and resubmit again for this year. We could increase our presence by calling for nominations on the web site or in Streamlines on a monthly basis to get the message in front of members more often. The magazine does profile the main award recipients, although only a listing of recipients of other awards is published. We could list 2016 recipients in our direct email call for nominations, thereby helping to publicize their award and calling for nominations at the same time. Maybe this makes the awards more 'accessible' to potential recipients.
 - b. Award web pages – Web page stories for the Ransom J Arthur recipients were completed last year and uploaded to the USMS web site. We will work on completing the web page stories for our other award recipients. We will reach out to the other committees to encourage them fill in their recipient web pages with content, too.
 - c. Local recognition / swag – The online store is now live. We will need to publicize its presence and purpose to the LMSCs and clubs more often, and place notices in Streamlines for Coaches as well as Volunteers. Tracy will contact Kyle Deery for statistics on orders to date. We will track quantity and type of products ordered, and refresh the product offering at a future date. It would also be good to see who is ordering.
 - d. IMSHOF – We have had two of our nominees inducted in the past two years, but should consider additional nominees if they are deserving. Additional names were considered for nomination last year by a subcommittee. We should form another subcommittee this year to review potential nominees again.
 - e. Promoting award recipients – We hope the press releases sent to the LMSCs after award presentations are useful. We will informally contact some of the recipients of these press releases and ask if they were helpful or used at all.
 - f. Coordination with other committees – We could help the other committees by advising each on publicity for their recipients, and by sending them examples and suggestions. Kerry O'Brien, from the Coaches Committee, requested information last year on our post-convention press releases. We could mentor a committee to guide it through the award process. The Fitness Committee again did not present a service award this past year. We will reach out to the Officials Committee to determine where it is in development of its service award.
3. Subcommittees for evaluation and help with our committee's annual awards will be formed shortly. Ray will send out a call for volunteers to serve on them. Nancy agreed to head up the June Krauser Communications Award, and Laura agreed to head the Club of the Year award. Sally will head the RJA Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.
