

Recognition & Awards Committee Meeting Minutes

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards		
Committee Chair:	Megan Lassen		
Minutes recorded by:	Sally Dillon	Date/time of meeting:	November 14, 2020 at 8:00 EST

Motions Passed with financial implications: none

1. Motions passed: MSA to approve the August 31, 2020 Annual minutes as amended.
2. MSA to approve the Recognition and Awards Committee policies document as amended.

Number of committee members present: 11 **Absent: 3** **Number of other delegates present: n/a**

Committee members present: Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Barbara Deshler, Sally Dillon, Megan Lassen, Charis McCarthy, Ray Novitske, Elizabeth Nymeyer, Ginger Pierson, Nancy Ridout, and Laura Val. Also, Ed Coates – EC Liaison.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Megan Lassen at 8:04 pm EST.

3. Approval of Annual Meeting minutes: Nancy moved and Ray seconded the motion to amend the August 31, 2020 Annual Meeting minutes by adding a missing word, “thanked”, in item 3.c (“Nancy thanked the selection committee . . .”). The motion carried. MSA to approve the August 31, 2020 Annual minutes as amended.
4. R&A Committee Policy review: Revisions to the policies were submitted by subcommittees and distributed to committee members. Sally lead a discussion of the proposals as follows:
 - a. No changes were recommended or made to the Committee Description that appears in the rule book.
 - b. There were no objections to the proposed changes to article A (Policies regarding committee business and all USMS awards for service), article B (Policies regarding the acceptance of a new USMS National award), and C (Policies regarding the USMS Capt. Ransom J. Arthur M.D. Award).
 - c. There were two amendments to the proposed changes to article D (Policies regarding the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award) as follows: #3 – add “members” to the end of the sentence, and #9 – reword after USMS President to say “Chair and Vice Chair of the R&A Committee, and two other committee members.
 - d. There was one amendment to article E (Policies regarding the USMS Club of the Year Award). #7 – add “banners” after “award” to make clear what type of award is given.
 - e. There were no objections to the proposed changes to article F (Policies regarding the USMS June Krauser Communications Award).
 - f. For consistency, an amendment was made to article G (Policies regarding USMS awards given by other committees and groups. In #2-#8, “at the Annual Meeting” was inserted after “Delegates” in each sentence.
 - g. There were no objections to the proposed changes to articles H & I (Policies regarding Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame (and ISHOF)

MSA to approve the amendments to the revisions. MSA to approve the Recognition and Awards Committee policies document as amended.

5. Subcommittee to review award forms that are posted on the website: It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed to review the award nomination information and forms that are posted on the USMS website. The subcommittee will look for consistence with the R&A Policies and propose improvements, when necessary. Sally (lead), Barbara and Nancy volunteered. Others are welcome to join the subcommittee. Ray mentioned the concept of using electronic forms instead of writable PDFs. He broached the subject with the National Office a few years ago and they were unable to help at that time. We can ask again, but Barb said she knows how to do it. The subcommittee will explore this idea.
6. Ideas and/or goals for 2021: Megan asked for suggestions; none were offered.

7. Wrap up: Megan announced that she is stepping down as chair. She's taking a hiatus from USMS activity but hopes to come back to the committee in a couple years. Many members thanked her for her service as the chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 pm EST
