

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Ray Novitske	Vice Chair:	Megan Lassen
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	August 28, 2017 8:00 pm EDT

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to accept revisions to the committee policies.

Number of committee members present: 12

Absent: 3

Committee members present: Ray Novitske (chair), Megan Lassen (vice chair), Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Chris Campbell, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Nadine Day, Sally Dillon, Lori Payne, MJ Caswell, Laura Val, Chris Stevenson (EC vice president)

Minutes

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

1. Roll call was taken and a quorum was established. It is noted that the committee's USMS email list (recognition-committee@usus.org) no longer works.
2. Ray summarized suggestions for recognizing the "Stars recognition system" recipients in the program that the Board wants to implement: Persons being awarded the fifth and last star would be recognized annually at the convention, would be awarded a small pin probably in a shape of a star, and a notation would be placed on his/her USMS swimmer page as an accomplishment. Since the last star would not be awarded immediately in the coming year when the program is rolled out, there is time to fully plan for the last star recognition. Ray will present the suggestion to Patty Miller and Dan Cox during the convention.
3. Project updates were presented.
 - a. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – there were 15 recipients selected this year out of 20 nominations. One nomination was received for a person that received the award last year. In the past when this happened, the nominator withdrew the nomination. This year, the nominator insisted that the nomination be accepted because there is no rule stating that the award is given only once. We will address this in the committee's policies. Hill Carrow will be writing the presentation poem again this year.
 - b. June Krauser Communication Award – the recipient was selected for 2017 out of a record number of nominations. A change to the selection criteria was discussed. Communications (especially electronic and digital) have evolved and continue to do so since the award criteria were developed. There is also a desire to encourage younger volunteers to join the committee who may be able to contribute evaluation of the newer forms of communications due to their use of them. Nancy and Megan will work on recommendations to be presented at the convention.
 - c. Club of the Year Award – Laura reported that there were a record number of nominations for both regional and local categories this year. The award banners have been ordered. There was discussion on including a statement in the award criteria encouraging a resubmission in a subsequent year if the nominee was not selected in a given year. After discussion on recognizing all the nominees, it was decided to name them in the convention meeting minutes without revealing the names of the winning clubs.
 - d. Award page bios – Ray reported that a few items need to be cleaned up on the DDSA biographies that were completed to date, about 8 years. There are other years to be completed for the DDSA. These will be assigned in the coming week in an attempt to complete them by the convention.
4. Convention plans
 - a. Writing press releases – We will send out press releases of our award recipients to their local clubs and LMSCs. This year, we also want to have the short bios uploaded to the awards pages soon after recipients are announced. Cheryl, Rich, and Lori have agreed to write these.
 - b. Awards presentation – Ray is assembling the award presentation slides and reported that the coaches awards have been received. We will contact the other committees so their recipients can be named in the slides, too.
 - c. Convention workshop – We will be using a Jeopardy game on projected screen to present information in our convention workshop. There will be a host and a second person to help move the game along and offer

explanations for some of the answers if needed. Prizes will be offered for the players. Nadine and Megan suggested changing the format to use Kahoot, an online Q&A game that would allow everyone to participate on their phones or tablets. No one else was familiar with the system. Kahoot will be investigated and used if participation is feasible and can deliver the workshop information.

5. Officials award – we have received and reviewed a request for instituting an Official Service Award from the Officials Committee. The committee felt it was appropriate, and recommended changing the due date to coincide with other service awards, and to be sure that funds for the award comes from the Officials Committee. Suggested changes will be sent to the Officials Committee for their review. The R&A committee will vote on the request at convention.
6. Committee policies – Sally presented and discussed the proposed revisions to our committee policies that were distributed prior to the meeting for review. MSA to approve the policies (M-Carolyn, S-Laura).
 - a. It was suggested that we further review the policy regarding how often a club can be nominated for Club of the Year. It was noted that there are few regional clubs in the country, and without the ability to nominate again, we would eventually run out of regional clubs for the award. The subject will be discussed during our convention meeting.
 - b. It was suggested that there are too many workshops at the convention, not allowing enough time to participate in all the meetings. Nadine stated that the number of participants on committees has been reduced, and that many of the delegates no longer belong to committees, reducing conflicting meeting times. Convention workshops give them information to take back home.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.