

# USMS Convention — Dallas, Texas 2017

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Recognition and Awards	<b>Session #:</b>	1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Ray Novitske	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Megan Lassen
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Ray Novitske, Megan Lassen	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	9/14/17 / 9:45 AM

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## Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

- 1.

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## Motions Passed:

1. MSA (Nancy/Nadine) to establish an annual National USMS Officials Award

<b>Number of committee members present:</b> 10	<b>Absent:</b> 4	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b> 22
<b>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):</b> Ray Novitske (chair), Megan Lassen (vice chair), Rich Burns, Chris Campbell, Nadine Day, Sally Dillon, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Lori Payne, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val		
<b>Committee Members Absent:</b> Carolyn Boak, Ruth Carter, Viki Hill, M.J. Caswell		

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## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 AM and a quorum established.

1. Chair's Report – The year has been successful in that most of the goals for the year were realized. Exposure of the national awards at the convention is paying off with additional interest in the awards and publicly recognizing volunteer contributions. Award recipients have their own web page and the intent is to describe their accomplishments. Sally, Nadine, Cheryl, Megan have helped provide summaries for the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award recipients, with the Ransom J Arthur Award recipients completed last year.
2. Budget – The expenses for 2017 amounted to \$657 with an assumption on costs for the Club of the Year banners. This is less than our budget of \$960. Last year's expenses amounted to \$323 of a budget of \$960. Next year's budget remains at \$960, but there are additional expenses for the RJA awards that are purchased every 4-8 years. With this, next year's budget should be adequate to cover the projected \$925 in expenses.
3. Officials Service Award Proposal – We received a proposal from the Officials Committee to add a national award honoring officials contributions that have a positive effect on U.S. Masters Swimming.. This was discussed by the committee during a telephone conference call in August. Revisions to the award were suggested by the committee and accepted by the Officials Committee. The proposed recipient qualifications were discussed and clarified to include officials that contribute to USMS in all meets from national to local, and include open water events, too. The intent is to honor one person each year. Changes to include more than one official can be considered by the committee through a request brought to the R&A committee in the future. MSA to approve the award beginning in 2018. The proposed award will be highlighted during the committee report to the HOD, and will be placed in the award slides presented during the HOD to highlight the award for next year.
4. Reports on Annual Projects
  - a. Capt. Ransom J. Arthur MD Award – Sally reported that there were seven nominees this year: Ralph Davis, Jeff Strahota, Emmett Hines, Michael Moore, Frank 'Skip' Thompson, Ed Tsuzuki, and Sarah Welch. Michael Moore was selected and will receive his pin at the HOD awards presentation.
  - b. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – Ray reported that there were 20 nominees this year and that 15 were selected. Old style pins are available for free for DDSA recipients that may have lost their pin.
  - c. June Krauser Communications Award – Nancy reported that we received a record six nominations this year. The selection subcommittee is recommending that we revise the selection criteria to encourage consideration of innovative and effective forms of communications. After committee discussion on number and types of awards and whether compensation of nominees should be considered, the proposed revisions were tabled in order to be more thoroughly discussed during the next year.
  - d. Club of the Year Award – Laura reported that there were six nominees for the Local club award and three for the Regional club award. Votes were close this year because of the excellent nominations. We will encourage those not

selected to nominate again next year. Regional clubs nominated include: Oregon Masters, North Carolina Masters Swimming, and Michigan Masters, Local clubs nominated include: Texas Ford Aquatics Masters, Longhorn Aquatics, Palm Beach Masters, Talbot Masters, The Olympic Club, and Tamalpais Aquatic Masters.

5. Reports on 2017 Projects

- a. Increasing nominations – Ray pointed to the increase in nominations this year as a good result. Rich developed the ‘FBI Wanted’ ad that was included in the Nationals meet program, Swimmer magazine, and through an email to LMSCs. It was not very visible in the magazine and can probably be given more visibility in the future. A show of hands in the audience indicated no one remembered seeing it in the magazine.
- b. International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame – Sally reported that a subcommittee consisting of Sally, Rich, Nancy, and Laura reviewed potential candidates and agreed to nominate Walt Reid for Honor Contributor. Walt was not selected but will be nominated by our committee again next year. Walt was in attendance at the meeting and expressed his appreciation to the committee for its confidence and work.
- c. Promotion of Service Awards at the Local Level – Nadine, Ruth, Megan, Ray sent out notices about the online recognition store available for LMSCs and clubs to purchase USMS volunteer branded appreciation merchandise. The merchandise ranges in price from, and sales has been slow during the year. One audience member reported it took months for the company to fulfill the order placed by the LMSC. Most recently, the button link to order merchandise on the volunteer recognition web site is missing. Results of previous surveys of LMSCs establishment of volunteer recognition is found on the USMS web site.

6. Convention workshop - An audience interactive Jeopardy game is planned as a method to convey information during the workshop that will encourage recognition of volunteers. The second half of the workshop will be a discussion of who should be recognized and how that could take place. Audience experiences in the discussion will be encouraged.

7. Revisions to Committee Policies

- a. Club of the Year - The policy states that a club cannot nominate itself for five years after receiving the award. A discussion of changing this to 8 years, 10 years, or leaving it in place. There are not many regional clubs to compete while there are hundreds of local clubs. There may be reason to recognize clubs again if its composition and leadership changes, the club is essentially a new club.

8. New Business

- a. Susan Ingham brought a proposal for Club Recognition in to the committee for consideration. The proposal involves a system that awards specific points for various membership and educational activities, as well as for growth. It would be in addition to the current Club of the Year awards. It was noted that the National Office has used some similar incentives in their for membership renewal and club development promotions, but the proposal will be reviewed.

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## Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Review and investigate revision to the Committee Policy regarding time to wait until a recipient of the Club of the Year can resubmit a nomination.
2. Review and investigate revision to the selection criteria of the June Krauser Communications Award.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM

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