

Committee Name:	Recognition & Awards	Session #:	--	Report #:	--
Committee Chair:	Ray Novitske	Vice Chair:	Sally Dillon		
Minutes recorded by:	Ray Novitske	Date/time of meeting:	4/13/14 7:00 PM Eastern Time		

Motions Passed:

None

Number of committee members present: 10

Absent: 5

Committee members present: Ray Novitske (chair), Sally Dillon (vice chair), Carolyn Boak, Laura Val, Lori Payne, Kerry O'Brien, Rich Burns, Robert Zeitner, Tracy Grilli (ex-officio), Chris Stevenson (EC)

Minutes

The conference call-in meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM Eastern Time

1. Sally reported on the Ransom J Arthur Award.
 - a. Voting is completed and a recipient has been selected. The shadow box plaques ordered will arrive soon at Sally's and will be engraved locally.
 - b. There were three nominees this year, Michael Heather, Michael Moore, and Hill Carrow. Two people eligible to vote did not, and three past winners were not permitted to vote since their USMS membership was not current. The recipient's name has been sent to Nadine Day, who will make the announcement at Spring Nationals. Jeff Roddin, Championship Committee Chair, has also been notified that a selection has been made.
2. Nancy reported on the subcommittee to increase nominations for USMS awards.
 - a. The subcommittee developed several proposals for this year. The first action proposed is to personally place calls to LMSC chairpersons, informing them of the service awards and nomination deadlines. Nancy developed a draft script encouraging chairs on nominating and it was suggested that each email be personalized as much as possible. Kerry and Nancy will develop informational paragraphs to send in an email follow up. Kerry offered to make contact with the USMS coaches. Included will be nomination procedures and information on the awards.
 - ~~b-a.~~ The suggestion of preparing a flyer to be included in the 'goodie bag' handed to swimmers at Spring Nationals was discussed and accepted. Rich will develop the copy, which will be one or one-half page. The committee budget would most likely cover this expense. Ray will check with Jeff Roddin and meet director Jamie Benes to determine if deadlines and permissions allow this. Laura also offered to find out when the bag stuffing will take place and what deadlines are in place.
 - ~~e-a.~~ Deadlines for submission to the Streamlines editor were identified. Our materials should be ready to announce a call for nominations by May 13 for the Volunteers Streamlines, May 23 for general Streamlines, and June 6 for the Coaches Streamlines.
3. Sally reported on the subcommittee to encourage local recognition of volunteers.
 - a. The purpose of the subcommittee is to follow up on the survey that was conducted in 2010-2011 and determine if the recognition of volunteers at the LMSC level has expanded. Sally is contacting the 12 LMSCs that recognized their volunteers the first time around and the other subcommittee members are contacting the LMSCs that did not offer awards when the survey was first conducted. Contact has been by phone and email and some were having trouble receiving responses.
 - b. Sally noted that some positive comments have been received as well as some good suggestions. For example, Gail Dummer from Michigan suggested that USMS offer recognition items that LMSCs can use in their local chapters to recognize volunteers. These items could include thank you cards, pens or other small branded tokens of appreciation.
 - c. Many LMSC chairs have responded that they could use some ideas and guidance on local recognition. Some responded that recognition is given periodically to deserving individuals, but not on an annual or regular schedule. Some reported that they were busy attempting to meet the LMSC minimum standards and didn't have the time or energy to tackle more.

- d. The subcommittee will finish LMSC contacts and report their results to Sally. A document summarizing the findings will be available by the convention. The committee will reach out to the LMSC leaders and share the information gathered. Future work could include assistance to LMSCs in setting up recognition plans.
4. Nomination forms have been updated on the USMS web site. Patty Miller's story was posted to the Awards page in early April. Ray has received and reviewed the call for award nominations statement, which will be included in the May-June issue of *Swimmer*.
5. Tracy reported that the LMSC Development Committee plans the workshops. Ray will contact Paige to suggest that a planned workshop be identified that can include the recognition of volunteer service as part of its syllabus.
6. Once our award recipients are selected this year, we will set up a committee to prepare press releases/announcements for distribution to local LMSCs and interested media outlets immediately after recipients are announced at the convention.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM Eastern Time
