

U.S. Masters Swimming

Committee Name: Recognition & Awards

Committee Chair: Elizabeth Nymeyer

Minutes recorded by: Sally Dillon

Date/time of meeting: July 21, 2024, 6 pm CST

Actions taken: None

Number of committee members present: 8

Absent: 7

Guests: none

Present: Sally Dillon, Tara Mack, Ann Marshfield, Nancy Nevid, Sonny Nguyen, Ray Novitske, Elizabeth Nymeyer, Nancy Ridout, Crystie McGrail (VPLO)

Absent: Rich Burns, Hill Carrow, Sara Dunn, Jessie Feng, Teresa Frias, Caitlin Gagnon, Michael Moore

Beth called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm CST and welcomed everyone.

1. VPLO report: Crystie said there is a full roster of At Large Director candidates. The R&A committee annual report is due Aug 1. Minutes from recent BOD meetings will be posted soon. Delegates need to register with convention, to receive the meeting reminders. In answer to Ray's question, Crystie said non-delegates can sit in on meetings. Everyone should use Sched to sign up online.
2. Approval of minutes: The June 9, 2024 minutes were approved via email and posted on the website.
3. Next meeting: The R&A annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, August 11. Registration is required.
4. Subcommittee reports:
 - a. Ransom J. Arthur MD Award (RJA): In Michael Moore's absence, Sally noted that since the subcommittee hasn't discussed the changes to the RJA policies that were proposed at the last meeting, a decision should be deferred to a future meeting. She also said that Kris Wingenroth has said that she would prefer to do her acceptance speech at the annual meeting – via video if possible.
 - b. Masters International Swimming Hall of Fame (MISHOF): Nancy R reported that the MISHOF induction will take place along with the Paragon Awards on the Friday before the IHOF induction. They are scheduled for October.
 - c. Fitness Award (FIT): Ann asked who reaches out to get representatives from other committees for the selection committee and Beth offered to give her a few suggestions; the committee options are open-ended. Ann also asked if there is a deadline and Beth said July 29. Sally offered to give Ann a couple suggestions from other committees.
 - d. June Krauser Communication Award (JKC): Nancy R reported that she has received 4 nominations. Due to a conflict of interest, Sara will replace Ann on the selection committee. Nancy hasn't been able to line up selection committee members from other USMS committees. She expects the decision to be made by August 1. Nancy plans to order the award again this year and will work with Jessica Reilly for payment.
 - e. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award (DDSA): Beth reported that the subcommittee is in the process of ranking the 13 nominations. Ann mentioned there was a "strikeouts" on one nomination; Beth will resolve the issue. Goal is to be finished by the end of the week.
 - f. Club of the Year Award (COYA): Sally reported for Sara, who was unable to be at the meeting. There were 5 nominations (2 from FL, 1 each from NE, SP and IW). A recipient has been selected. Beth was concerned that there were form discrepancies. Sally agreed; not all nominations were as complete as they could have been.
 - g. Award Bios: Nancy N, Jesse, Kaitlin, and Ray have made quite a bit of progress with the Fitness stories.
 - h. Creating a Best Award Practices document: To be shared with other award-giving committees. Beth's goal is to focus on this after the annual meeting. Comments were made anyway:
 - streamline the nomination forms
 - not everyone has PDF pro or MS Word, which makes those formats problematic
 - use Google forms (that was the plan a couple years ago)
 - where do the forms "live"?
 - data can be used to design uniform applications and how to write on PDFs
 - a "tech update" needs to be done to protect these products

- download historical documents as pdf and link to specific documents. Will need updating, where to locate these documents?
- Sally to send historical documents to Tara, Beth, Crystie
- i. Social Media and Direct Outreach: Beth thanked everyone for their efforts.
- j. Award Video for Annual Meeting: Ray said the deadline to submit to National Office is September 1. Caitlin, Nancy K, and Jessie are working with him. He needs the award recipient lists by August 10, which gives him 11 days to assemble and add music. Ann suggested the other award giving committees need this information, and offered to send it to the chairs if Ray will provide the schedule and deadline.

The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm CST.