

# USMS Convention – Chicago Ill. 2009

<b>Committee Name:</b> Recognition & Awards	<b>Session #</b> 1	<b>Report #</b> 9
<b>Committee Chair:</b> Sally Dillon	<b>Vice Chair:</b> Hill Carrow	
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b> Sally Dillon	<b>Date/Time of meeting:</b> 9/17/09; 2-3:15 pm	

## Action Items: Proposed Expenditures

It was MSA that we purchase 10 years of shadow boxes (not to exceed \$1000), providing the National Office is willing to store them. (Used for the Ransom Arthur award)

## Action items:

It was moved and seconded that we implement the club recognition proposal in 2010. It was MSA to table the discussion until the next conference call.

It was MSA that we create a subcommittee – The Rule Book Dedication Committee - as per their report.

It was MSA that we accept the report on recognition of volunteers and recommend a workshop on recognition of volunteers be included in next year's convention.

<b>Number of committee members present:</b> 9	<b>Absent:</b> 7	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b> 12
<b>Committee members present:</b> Sally Dillon, Hill Carrow, Marianne Bradley, Margie Hutinger, Graham Johnston, Walt Reid, Bill Tingley, Rand Vaillancourt, and Julie Heather (Ex Officio).		

## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 by the chair.

- Introductions – New delegates in the audience and committee members introduced themselves and stated their LMSCs.
- Ransom Arthur pin presentation - Sally gave a short speech and presented this year's recipient, Julie Paque Heather, with her Ransom Arthur pin.
- Chair's review - Sally distributed a copy of the budget that was submitted to the Finance Committee in June. Total request is \$370, which covers the cost of the Ransom Arthur and Club of the Year awards, and a minimal amount for postage.
- Annual Projects
  - Ransom Arthur Award - Sally reported that there were three nominees: Julie Heather, Patty Miller, and Steve Schofield. A record 34 of 37 eligible voters participated. Sally noted that there is not a long written history of nominees for this award and she sent an email some months ago asking active RJA award winners to see if they have records from previous years. She received no responses and Nancy Ridout suggested it be done again, along with a deadline that might encourage responses.
  - Dorothy Donnelly Service Award - Hill reported that eleven awards would be given during the HOD meeting Friday afternoon. This award is all about service and those receiving the award will be easily recognizable. Hill has fine-tuned the presentation and it will be more concise and possibly even entertaining.
  - Club of the Year Award - Sally reported that there were five nominees this year: Florida Maverick Masters, Maine Masters Swim Club, Mission Viejo Nadadores, Noblesville Adult Swim Team, and Sarasota YMCA Sharks. The selection committee was: Don Mehl (Coaches), Doug Garcia (Marketing), Heather Hagadorn (VP), Ray Novitske (Communications), Marcia Anziano (Fitness), and Gail Roper and Sally Dillon (R&A). The committee reviewed applications, visited Web sites, looked at newsletters, and requested additional information from nominated clubs. They also met by conference call to make the final decision. The committee met today at lunch and will recommend changes that will be discussed by the R&A committee in their next conference call. This award will also be announced at the HOD.
- ISHOF & IMSHOF - Walt Reid reported that last weekend the ISHOF class of 2009 was inducted and no Masters swimmers were included. Starting last year, they have gone to a point system that is the same as what was invented for IMSHOF. Each year they accept 6 men and women as candidates, the points being generated from the World Top Ten, Records, and Championships. Swimmers must first have been inducted into IMSHOF and that ceremony was also last weekend. They only inducted 2 men and 2 women, including USMS members Margery Meyer and Gertrud Zint. The candidate list for 2010 has been submitted and it includes Mel Goldstein for the category of "Honor Contributor". Mel's nomination was submitted a number of years ago and the application was apparently misplaced. Walt also reported that an IMSHOF subcommittee has been set up to address issues of IMSHOF. Walt provided a written summary, which is attached to these minutes.

6. Subcommittee reports:

- a. Club recognition - Margie reported that a subcommittee met to discuss ways to recognize more clubs than just the Club of the Year. The group looked at the USA-Swimming model, which doesn't fit USMS well. The subcommittee recommended that we recognize the one Club of the Year and then we award the first 3 runners-up a "Gold Club Award", the next 3 a "Silver Club Award", and the next three a "Bronze Club Award". This would honor 10 separate clubs. Plaques could be given. **It was moved and seconded (Heather/Vaillancourt) that we implement this proposal in 2010. A number of issues were brought up and it was MSA (Tingley/Heather) to table the discussion until the next conference call.**
- b. Rule Book dedication - In 2008, Susan Ehringer asked the R&A committee for some help and guidance for the Rule Book dedication. Hill reported on the subcommittee consisting of Marcia Benjamin, Rob Copeland, Susan Ehringer, Nancy Ridout, Hill, and Sally that was formed. The subcommittee determined that the Rule Book Dedication Committee would annually select individual(s) or group(s) be recognized with a dedication in the USMS Rule Book. The selection will be based on the following criteria:  
The person(s) recognized, shall have
  - 1) had significant impact on, or contributions to the USMS community, or
  - 2) made contributions to the Rule Book, or
  - 3) achieved a "legendary status" among the USMS family (similar to June Krauser), or
  - 4) been deceased no longer than one year (if no longer living).The Rule Book Dedication subcommittee will be comprised of the Rule Book Coordinator, the chair of the Recognition & Awards Committee, and one member from each of the following committees: Executive, Legislation, Open Water/ Long Distance, and Rules. It was suggested that we would solicit and accept nominations. **It was MSA (Carrow/Heather) that we create a subcommittee – The Rule Book Dedication Committee - as per the report of the subcommittee.** The chair of R&A will request members from the list of committees.
- c. Recognition of volunteers on the local level Marianne - Marianne led a subcommittee charged with devising ways to provide recognition to volunteers on the local level. Other participants were Julie Heather, Nancy Ridout, and Sally. Their written report is attached and we will ask to have it distributed to all LMSC officers. Julie suggested a workshop be conducted at next year's convention on recognition and awards at the local level. **It was MSA (Heather/Bradley) that we accept the report on recognition of volunteers and recommend that a workshop on recognition of volunteers be included in next year's convention.**

7. New Business

- a. DDSA & RJA pin design - Sally reported that we have 92 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service award pins and 6 Ransom Arthur award pins on hand. None of them have the new USMS logo. Julie informed the committee that the BOD has stated we would use stock with old logos until it runs out. The committee concurred and we will continue to use these awards, which will run out in 5 years. In 3 years we will begin the process of designing and purchasing new pins.
- b. RJA award – shadow box - Sally reported that it took some sleuthing to track down the shadow box frames for the Ransom Arthur award. The cost for one is \$95 plus \$20 in shipping. She has been told that purchasing a larger quantity will bring the cost down \$10-\$15 per and save significantly more on shipping. **It was MSA (Tingley/Vaillancourt) that we purchase 10 years of shadow boxes (not to exceed \$1000), providing the National Office is willing to store them.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:23 pm.

**Tasks for the Upcoming Year**

1. Refine and implement the club recognition program.
2. Distribute recognition of volunteers at the local level materials
3. Accept nominations and select the 2010 Ransom J. Arthur recipient.
4. Accept nominations and select the 2010 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award recipients.
5. Accept nominations and select the 2010 Club of the Year.
6. Accept nominations and select the Rule Book Dedication recipient.
7. Receive permission to store RJA shadow boxes (awards) at the National Office AND obtain necessary funding.

## USMS Convention 2009 – Recognition and Awards Committee

### ISHOF – Masters Category

The induction ceremony for the ISHOF Class of 2009 was held last weekend at the Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale. There were no Masters selected into the class of 2009. The last Masters inducted was Jane Asher (GBR) class of 2006 and the last USMS swimmer was Laura Val in 2003.

The following nominations for Honor Swimmer for the class of 2010 based on the point system have been submitted to Bob Duenkel.

#### Women:

Karlyn Pipes-Neilsen	USA	3365
Rita Simonton	USA	1695
Betsy Jordan	USA	1546
Lavelle Stoinoff	USA	1187
Katherine Pelton	USA	1101
Maria Lenk	USA/BRA	1089

#### Men:

Frank Pieme	USA	1757
Aldo Da Rosa	USA	1450
Burwell Jones	USA	1098
Jim McConica	USA	1028
Paul Hutinger	USA	1011
Robert Strand	USA	1001

### IMSHOF

The induction ceremony for the IMSHOF Class of 2009 was held last weekend at the Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale. There were two USMS members inducted: Margery Meyer and Gertrud Zint.

Candidates for "Honor Swimmer" Class of 2010 have been submitted. These candidates are based on the point system. Also for the Class of 2010 we have submitted the nomination of Mel Goldstein for the category "Honor Contributor".

### IMSHOF Sub Committee:

Late last year Bruce Wigo set up a sub-committee to address IMSHOF. The members include June Krauser, Mel Goldstein, Nancy Ridout, Tod Spieker and Walt Reid. Bob Duenkel has been asked to lead this group.

Some of his concerns were:

Lack of interest from around the world.

Who should do the voting – do we have the right people?

What should be done with the ceremony – maybe only once every 2 years at World Champs?

Should we have additional categories?

Respectively submitted,

Walt Reid

## **USMS Recognition and Awards Committee September 2009**

### **Subcommittee Report on Suggested Ways to Show Appreciation to LMSC Volunteers on the Local Level Marianne Bradley, Julie Heather, Nancy Ridout, and Sally Dillon**

All of us who participate in USMS swimming know that many people within USMS contribute to the smooth operations at every level within our organization. It is most important that those who dedicate many volunteer hours to USMS, their LMSC and their own club should be recognized for their efforts and accomplishments. There are many prestigious awards presented at the National Level yearly, but there are many volunteers and others at the local level that also need to be recognized for their superior efforts.

We suggest that on the individual LMSC websites, there should be an introductory paragraph about the importance of this recognition and show of appreciation at the local level. And also a paragraph about the importance of the LMSCs to nominate people for the National Awards (Ransom Arthur, Coach of the Year, Dorothy Donnelly Service, Fitness, Newsletter, etc.) along with the information on when and how to do this, and where to find it on the USMS website.

You'll find below suggestions from our committee and from other LMSC's about how to reward the LMSC officers and volunteers. It seems that if these suggestions were readily available at the local level, there would be more participation. We might suggest a list of ways, recommendations, and tools, such as downloadable letters, note cards and templates for certificates and thank you cards. Perhaps there could be an article in Streamlines as a reminder to all, plus it should be in each LMSC newsletter. Many responses were very supportive of our idea to provide this information as it is much needed. Nancy Ridout detailed many things that Pacific LMSC does, which are part of the list below.

Contributor of the Year (recognizes outstanding individual contributions that support Masters swimming in the areas of support, leadership, recruitment, at the club, LMSC or National levels - one award only)

Distinguished Service (given for outstanding and consistent contributions at the local LMSC level - more than 1 award may be given)

Appreciation Award (to individuals or groups that have made significant contributions on the local level)

Personal Achievement Award (given for long-term dedication to the program with noticeable improvement in a swimmers skills and times. They must have been a member for the 3 prior years, active in local competition and showing improvements in at least one of the following: Top Ten rankings, open water points, or other significant indications of personal achievement).

Male Volunteer of the Year

Female Volunteer of the Year

Coach of the Year

And to other personnel: Officers of the LMSC when they leave office

Meet Officials, Clinic Coordinators, Event Directors, or a Special Club certainly deserve recognition.

Suggested awards can be plaques, trophies, engraved pen sets or letter openers, or framed certificates expressing thanks. These might be best for the LMSC level awards at a yearly banquet/awards dinner. LMSC's can also pay for all or part of a lunch/dinner when they hold their meetings to show a thank you to those who attend the meetings. Awards could certainly be ordered from the Awards companies that support USMS year-round.

More casual forms of recognition for volunteers on the local level at meets are free meet T-shirts, restaurant gift cards in varying amounts (great for kids who volunteer at meets) and thank you notes. A social gathering is always in order just to have fun with the team supplying the food or a covered dish get-together where the team pays for the "entrée" items.

Thanking our volunteers is a very important recognition for the hard work they do year-round. These suggestions need to be finalized and sent to the various LMSC's and posted on the USMS website.