

AGENDA

I. Warm-up

A. Call to Order and Introductions

Members Present: Marianne Bradley, Hill Carrow, Kelly Crandell, Sally Dillon, Dan Gruender, Edie Gruender, Margie Hutinger, Suzanne Rague, Walt Reid, Rand Vaillancourt

Guests Present: Rob Copeland

Reminders: Added Margie to the "Committee Overview" Members list, and corrected her email address.

B. Review committee responsibilities (voting, development and guidance for new awards/recognition, etc.) Always keep your local masters swim clubs aware of the awards and each deadline so no deserving people are left out.

Ransom J. Arthur Award: All recipients currently registered with USMS *and* members of this Committee are expected to participate in the selection of the annual winner by reviewing the materials sent out by the Chair, and voting by either mailing your ballot back to the Chair *and/or* by emailing your vote to the Chair (you are allowed only one vote each).

Dorothy Donnelly Service Award: Make sure your LMSCs are aware of the award and it's deadline (July 30th). A maximum of 15 people receive the honor (certificate and pin) after a selection is made by the USMS President, R&A Chair, and the R&A Vice Chair. Presentation is made during the Annual Convention presentation of the Recognition & Awards (R&A) meeting minutes.

Club of the Year: Members of the R&A Committee volunteer to be a part of the selection committee, which consists of 2 R&A members, 1 Coaches Committee member, 1 Fitness Committee member, and the Vice President of Local Operations. These people review all of the applications and cast a vote for the winner.

USMS ISHOF Nominee: Nominations may come from any of the USMS National Committees, and are asked to send their nominations to the USMS R&A Committee as a clearinghouse. It is preferred that USMS submit one nominee (one who is already an inductee to IMSHOF) to the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) to ensure that voting members of ISHOF do not split their votes, and thereby not having a Masters Swimmer Inductee.

USMS IMSHOF Nominee: Pool swimmers (maximum of 3 men & 3 women) are chosen based on a point system (for details contact Walt Reid). Other categories for which applications are made include Contributor, Open Water, Diving, Water Polo, and Synchronized Swimming. As a committee, we should solicit/submit nominations for Contributor and Open Water categories in the same fashion as we do for ISHOF.

Other Awards: USMS Coach of the Year, the Newsletter of the Year, USMS June Krauser Communications Award, Fitness Award, the Raleigh Area Masters National Championship Award, and the David Yorzyk Memorial Award are all awarded by other entities of USMS (please go to <http://www.usms.org/admin/awards/> for more information).

C. Each committee member is very important since the reorganization of the Recognition & Awards Committee (see committee description below):

"The Recognition and Awards Committee shall consist of the committee chair and sixteen or more members with at least eight Ransom J. Arthur award winners and additional members including one member from each of the following committees: Coaches Committee, Long Distance Committee, Records & Tabulation Committee, and the History & Archives Committee."

II. Main Set (Meeting Focus)

A. This year's ISHOF Nominee & Process (Thank you Marcia Cleveland & Suzanne Heim-Bowen)

ISHOF Committee *may* retain nominations for up to 5-years (per information from Ginger). [Hill](#), please find out for sure. We need a list of names of those swimmers who have already been nominated, but have not yet been inducted into ISHOF, so that we can update their applications and resubmit them as stronger candidates ([Walt/Dan/Edie](#), please look into this, and coordinate with each other).

B. IMSHOF (notice the M = Masters) Categories we *nominate* for.

Make contact with the IMSHOF Coordinator so we know who to send nominations to ([Walt/Dan/Edie](#)), and exactly what to include in the nomination application (website information is incorrect). Rules for consideration changed this last December ([Walt/Dan/Edie](#), please look into this, and coordinate with each other). Our committee may submit nominations under the categories of Contributor and Open Water.

C. Club of the Year Nomination Form is in need of an overhaul

[Sally](#), [Marianne](#), [Margie](#) have offered to create a standardize nomination form with detailed instructions (including how to submit an included letter backing up the standardized information). [Kelly](#) will send past nomination packets, samples, and current information for consideration. Present ideas, and first draft of the standardized form by April.

Committee Overview

Chair Kelly Crandell

Vice Chair Hill Carrow

Committee Members: Marianne Bradley, Sally Dillon, Dan Gruender, Edie Gruender, Suzanne Heim-Bowen, Margie Hutinger, Graham Johnston, Suzanne Rague, Walt Reid, Joan Smith, Richard Smith, Bill Tingley, Rand Vaillancourt, Mary Lee Watson

Executive Committee

Liaison Julie Heather

2008 Welcome Letter Review

D. Creating new methods for Club recognition

The Club Development Task Force has asked our committee to look into ways in which we can extend more recognition to more clubs in order to promote the LMSC's and USMS membership. The idea was based on the USA-Swimming Gold/Silver/Bronze format (see [USA-Swimming Club Recognition Program](#) for details).

May also consider restructuring the current Club of the Year Award so that three awards (or more) are given to clubs of different sizes. Remember to include consideration for meets attended, meets hosted, national championship participation by club members, community involvement, numbers of swimmers in various age groups represented. [Sally](#), [Marianne](#), [Margie](#), [Dan](#) & [Edie](#) have been asked to work as a sub-committee with this responsibility. Contact [Carolyn Boak](#) for more information.

III. Sprint set (New Business)

A. Ransom Arthur Award Nomination and Selection Process

Suzanne Rague requested that the time-line chart not be included when the nomination packets are sent around to all of the voting members. Instead, include it with the application form – **to be done by this summer** as it is too late to include it on the website in time for this year's nominees.

B. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award Nomination and Selection Process (No questions or comments made.)

C. Volunteers to serve on the Club of the Year selection committee (R&A is allowed up to 2 selection committee members)

Sally, Edie, Dan, Hill volunteered. I will notify you when it is closer to the deadline for nominations.

IV. Warm down (Up-coming tasks and Assignments)

A. **Get the word out about Ransom Arthur nominations at your local level**

B. The next Committee Conference Call will be either **March 23rd** or **March 30th** at 5pm (Pacific) / 8pm (EST). Please **respond to [Kelly](#) with your preferred date.**

V. Adjourn @ 6:03 PM (Pacific)