

BY-LAWS TO THE CONSTITUTION of Texas Gulf Coast Council of Diving Clubs

ATTACHMENT 2A – TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award Information

(As revised and updated through the TGCC Business Meeting held March 9, 2017. December 31, 2017 updated for attachment number; dropped Additional Restrictions Section: rewording of “award’s” to read “award” and “ceremony to past winners” to read “ceremony, the past winners” in the “Award Recipients” section.)

HISTORIC INFORMATION – TGCC is a council of clubs. Its greatest responsibility is to recognize outstanding achievement in its member clubs and promote a community spirit in its members. In 2008 TGCC established its TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award (LAA) to recognize and honor those individuals in TGCC and its member clubs who have provided leadership and dedication to its principals. Amended in May 2009 to provide additional time in looking for qualified members, establishing criteria for each club representative to identify potential candidates, provide guidelines for additional clubs being added to TGCC and having their members qualify, and other administrative matters. Effective April 15, 2015 exceptional leadership was recognized as an alternate way of meeting the 3 club rule, and qualifying for the LAA. Also, because it has been so hard to find qualified applicants, the number per limitation was dropped. Effective March 9, 2017 provisions to recognize the importance to our dive community of members serving on the Flower Garden Banks National Marine Sanctuary (FGBNMS) Advisory Committee (SAC) was added. Although the SAC is not a Council club and has no affiliation with the TGCC, for purposes of the LAA only it is deemed to be a club for the club number, years of membership and leadership years count.

GENERAL CONCEPT – Winner’s of this award must have a proven track record of participation and leadership over time. We are looking for people who contributed to the dive community, not just one club. He or she must personify the best in the dive club scene.

Individuals so identified as TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award winners will receive a plaque at the annual TGCC Banquet and will be added to the TGCC Permanent Lifetime Achievement Award plaque. They also will receive lifetime individual membership in the Council.

The TGCC 1st Vice President will be responsible for compiling the information required to determine the candidates for this award, and will present their credentials to the Council at the November TGCC meeting. This award is decided by a 2/3rds vote of the TGCC Council at that meeting.

Once we are past the implementation schedule, each year there will be no restriction on the number of awards presented the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award. Annually new candidates will be identified by the various TGCC Club Representatives. They will be responsible for providing the initial information and forwarding it to the TGCC 1st Vice President. This information should include club data about that individual, any other club affiliation known to that Club Rep., and contact information for that individual. The determination point for the Club Representative reporting a candidate for this award is 18 or more years of membership in the club that they represent. Once

recommended, the candidate is tracked by the TGCC 1st Vice President and an additional nomination is not required from the member's club. Each year the Club Representatives will report all additional candidates recommended by their club to the TGCC 1st Vice President by May 1st. At a minimum this report will include the member's name, years of service and e-mail address. This is an individual award (Husband and wife, or other type "teams" receive individual awards, not joint awards).

The TGCC 1st Vice President will maintain the records of the award winners and future candidates. These records are considered personal and confidential and are maintained as such by the 1st Vice President and all members of the Council.

IMPLEMENTATION – Since initially this is an historic search, the following implementation schedule is being followed:

- 2008 – No award presented
- 2009 – Up to 10 awards may be presented
- 2010 – Up to 5 awards may be presented
- 2011 – Up to 5 awards may be presented
- 2012 – Up to 5 awards may be presented
- 2013 to 2014 - Up to 2 awards may be presented
- 2015 and forward – Awards may be presented to each qualified individual

AWARD CRITERIA – The following is the minimum criteria for consideration as a candidate for the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award:

- Currently and for a minimum of 3 years been a member of TGCC or a member of a member club
- Be an active (currently attending meetings/or events, not just on the club rolls) member of the club nominating the candidate.
- Club membership requirements:
 - Be a, or have been, a member of 3 TGCC clubs.
 - Or member of 2 TGCC clubs and have a record of contributing, working, providing training for or programs to other TGCC dive clubs.
 - Or member of 2 TGCC clubs and TGCC itself as an officer, club representative or as an individual member of the Council.
 - Or been a member of two clubs and have a record of exceptional leadership. Exceptional leadership is defined as 30 or more leadership years with those clubs.
 - Be a, or have been, a member of 2 TGCC clubs and served on the FGBNMS SAC.
 - In this club count, TGCC is also counted as a club if the member participated in TGCC as an individual (Not just a member of a member club).
 - For TGCC purposes, each year a person serves as a club representative or club officer will qualify as one year of TGCC membership.
- Have been a member of these clubs or TGCC for a minimum of 18 different years.
- Have served in a leadership position in these clubs for a total of 10 years, in any combination. For example, 6 years in one club and 4 years in another club would equal 10 years.
- Leadership positions are defined as:
 - For TGCC member clubs' as their Officers, Board of Director members, or chairpersons including Newsletter, Membership, Webmaster, Instructor, Program Director, etc.
 - For TGCC they include all its positions – President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, Webmaster, Trashfest Chairperson, Trashfest Co-Chairpersons, Donations Committee Chairperson, Club Representatives and Alternate Club Representatives, and etc.

- For the FGBNMS SAC they include all its positions – Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Constituent Member, Sub-Committee (or Working Group) Chairperson, Sub-Committee (or Working Group) Member.
- For HUC and SeaSpace dual positions are counted as one in the same year.
- For TGCC and Trashfest the member’s involvement is counted as one (1) club.
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- Represented divers and/or diving favorably with a State or Federal agency. Each year in such a capacity would count as 1 club year with such an agency being considered as a club in the club count.
- Be in “good standing” and have a “positive image and reputation” in both the dive and the public community.

In addition to the above the following is taken into account for rank ordering prospective candidates:

- Having represented the dive community, in a favorable light, in a public capacity.
- Having been a member of more than 4 or more TGCC member clubs. Note that certain clubs may no longer exist, but the club must have been a member of TGCC when that individual was in it.
- Having served in leadership positions for a total of more than 20 years.
- Having served as Newsletter Editor or webmasters.
- Having provided services to other clubs (Classes, programs, instruction, etc.)

AWARD PROCESS – The following are the steps envisioned:

- Individual identified and recommended to the TGCC 1st Vice President by a TGCC Club Representative.
- 1st Vice President notifies the individual that he/she has been nominated by “name of nominating club” and is being considered for this TGCC award and requests additional information from the individual.
- Upon receiving additional information from the candidate the 1st Vice President notifies the Club Representative of clubs that the individual has identified and they confirm the pertinent information.
- 1st Vice President ranks the qualified candidates.
- 1st Vice President makes recommendations to the Council on qualified candidates.
- TGCC votes on each candidate – A 2/3rds majority vote is required for the award to be granted.
- 1st Vice President notifies those selected for the award.
- Permanent TGCC Lifetime Achievement Plaque is updated; a personal plaque is ordered for the award ceremony.
- Award presented at the TGCC Awards Banquet.

AWARD RECIPIENTS – The following pertains to the presentation of the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award:

- Those who are to currently receiving their award are notified, provided information about the presentation banquet, and provided a ticket to the Award Banquet.
- Prior winners of this award are e-mailed and notified about the award ceremony. They are provided the names of those to be inducted into the ranks of the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award recipients. They are given information about the award banquet and given the opportunity to attend.
- At the beginning of the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony, the past winners are recognized and gather together to greet the new additions to their group.
- Individual pictures are taken of the new winners during the presentation.
- A group picture is taken of the entire group of TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award winners (current and previous) that are at the banquet.

- If there are no recipients of the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award that year, no pictures are taken, but time is taken to have all those who have received this award stand and be recognized.

ADDITIONAL CLUBS PARTICIPATING IN THE AWARD PROCESS – As additional clubs join TGCC their members are entitled to recognition under this award program. The following defines eligibility:

- For clubs that have never before been part of TGCC, after 5 years of TGCC club membership, their members are eligible for the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award. Membership and leadership information from that club would go past the joining of TGCC to day 1 of that club’s history.
- For clubs that are rejoining TGCC, their members are eligible for the TGCC Lifetime Achievement Award once that club has a current TGCC membership history of more than 2 years and a total TGCC membership history of more than 5 years. At that time membership and leadership information from that club going past the rejoining date of TGCC to day 1 of that club’s history would be applicable to each of its candidates.

Approved and ratified on December 31, 2017 by:

TGCC 2017 Officers:

President (Frank Burek)

First Vice President (Rodney Dwire)

Secretary (JaVan Pruett)

Treasurer (Mark Leiserowitz)

Second Vice President (Randy Widaman)

TGCC 2017 Full Member Representatives:

City of Houston Underwater Mariners (Mark Leiserowitz)

Houston Underwater Photographic Society (Alicia Grimes)

JSC Lunarfins Scuba Club (Polly Swerdlin)