



Award Descriptions and Criteria

The Michigan Interscholastic Swim Coaches Association is proud to recognize our members and athletes for their hard work and dedication to high school swimming and diving. The criteria below provide standards and guidelines for determining award winners.

MATT MANN AWARD

This is the highest award given by MISCA for continued leadership, contributions, and service to Michigan High School Swimming. To be considered for this award, a person must have coached interscholastic swimming for at least five years in Michigan with above average success, and have demonstrated leadership at the Local, State, and National levels. Nominations and voting for this award take place at the annual business meeting of the Association in September. *Who was Matt Mann - [link](#)*

BRUCE HARLAN AWARD

This is the highest award given by MISCA for continued leadership, contributions, and service to Michigan High School Diving. To be considered for this award, a person must have coached interscholastic diving for at least five years in Michigan with above average success, and have demonstrated leadership at the Local, State, and National levels. Nominations and voting for this award take place at the annual business meeting of the Association in September. *Who was Bruce Harlan - [link](#)*

OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD

This award was created as a means to recognize an individual or group outside of the coaching profession for exceptional service, leadership, and contributions to swimming and/or diving within the state. To be considered for this award, a person must be presently outside of the coaching profession and have demonstrated over the years, an interest in the development, and promotion of aquatic programs in Michigan. Recipients of this award are decided upon each year by the MISCA Board of Directors after taking nominations from board members and/or the membership.



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YEARS OF SERVICE AWARD

Beginning in the Fall of 2017 MISCA will begin using the MHSCA Coaching Service Award. The MHSCA recognizes coaches for 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, and 50 years of service. Coaches are responsible to filling out the application form and submitting it to the MHSCA.

- Applications and paper work can be found on the [MHSCA website](#).
- Fill out both forms at the bottom of the page and send them into the MHSCA
 - MHSCA Membership Card # can be left blank or fill in "MISCA"
- MISCA will continue to issue 15 and 25-year service awards until our supply of certificates are used up. Please ask you zone VP for a certificate.

SWIM COACHES OF THE YEAR

This award is given to those coaches who receive the most votes from Association members at each respective State Meet.

DIVING COACHES OF THE YEAR

This award is given to the coach at each respective State Meet, whose divers score the highest accumulated point total in the State Meet competition. The point total must be from *divers of the same school*.

SWIMMER OF THE YEAR

This award is based on the athlete's performance in 2 individual events at the state finals (not prelims). NOTE: A leadoff swim on either freestyle relay can be considered an individual event. The NISCA power point system is used to assign points to each timed swim ([LINK](#)). The athlete with the highest total receives the award. Times must be achieved at the finals of the state meet.

DIVER OF THE YEAR

This award recognizes significant achievement in the diving competition at each respective State Meet. It is awarded to the top finisher in the diving event.

DREAM TEAM

The M.I.S.C.A. dream team is made up of athletes from all three state meets and is based on the following criteria:

- The fastest state meet performance in each event at finals; relay leadoff times are considered.
- An athlete may only receive the honor in 1 individual event. If an athlete has multiple #1 performances the runner up performances in each event are factored in.
- If there is a tie in the relays both teams will be chosen.
- If there is an individual tie and neither swimmer is #1 in another event both swimmers will be chosen.



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ZONE COACHES OF THE YEAR

At the end of each respective season, each Zone Vice President will solicit input from other coaches in their zone for candidates for this award. The Zone VP will then make the final decision to determine the winner in their zone. *Winners of this award should not be the State Swim Coach or State Diving Coach of the Year.*

National High School Athletic Coaches Association (NHSACA)

(1 coach from boys OR girls)

The MISCA board nominates 1 coach each year to represent Michigan HS swim/dive coaches. The award is given to coaches for outstanding achievement in the pool and community. The NHSACA uses several criteria to select its winner including: longevity in the sport, contributions to the sport (association membership, volunteer work, etc..) and success as a coach.

The MISCA board can nominate a coach multiple times and in consecutive years as long as that coach does not receive the Finalist Status or win the National Coach of the Year Award. If a coach is nominated and does not win or receive the finalist status then that coach can be re-nominated the following year. If MISCA nominates a coach and they receive the **Finalist Status** but were not named National COTY then MISCA must wait three years before nominating them again.

National Federation Coach of the Year

(1 coach for girls and 1 Coach for boys),

The MISCA board nominates one boys coach and one girls coach each year based on success as a coach and contributions to the sport for your entire career, with special attention on the past 5 years.

No limitations to how often someone may be nominated however coaches can only win the National COY once.

Michigan High School Coaches Association Coach of the Year (MHSCA)

(1 Coach for girls and 1 Coach for boys)

The MISCA board selects one boys coach and one girls coach from the pool of Division Coach of the Year Winners (D1, D2, and D3 Coach of the Year) to represent our sport.