



# ROAD RUNNERS CLUB OF AMERICA

## NATIONAL AWARDS NOMINATION INFORMATION

NOMINATION DEADLINE – DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>

### **BROWNING ROSS SPIRIT OF THE RRCA AWARD**

The Browning Ross Spirit of the RRCA Award was created to honor the memory of the RRCA's founding member, Browning Ross, who died unexpectedly in April 1998. The award honors a club member who is an unsung hero. These are the people who champion the RRCA tirelessly and enthusiastically, but prefer to stay in the background, letting others bask in the spotlight, just as Browning did.

#### General Criteria:

- The nominee should be an unsung hero of his/her RRCA affiliated club or event or the RRCA
- Works hard for the club, event or the RRCA
- Not craving the spotlight
- Works for the good of the club, event, the RRCA and the sport
- The nominee may be living or deceased.

### **RRCA HALL OF FAME**

Developed in 1970, the RRCA American Long Distance Running Hall of Fame, inducts individuals who have given, not only athletic performance, but also to the overall contribution of the sport of long distance running.

#### General Criteria:

- Two to Three inductees per year
- Preference is often given to competitive running performances
- Inductees need not necessarily be near the end of or clearly past their prime competitive years.
- Inductees should have demonstrated long-term excellence (years of quality performance) as opposed to a few brief years of top performances. Exceptions may include, but are not limited to a world-record marathon or an Olympic Championship.
- Racing preferably should have been done at distances of 5 miles or longer. Shorter distances such as a 5K will be considered, but a person which as only been outstanding at 5K does not deserve to get in on running performance alone.

### **RRCA SCOTT HAMILTON OUTSTANDING CLUB PRESIDENT AWARD**

This award honors an outstanding RRCA Club President. On July 30, 2005, Scott D. Hamilton passed away at the age of 77. Scott joined the Mid-Pacific Road Runners Club in 1965 and was an active runner for over 35 years. He served as the National President for the RRCA from 1966-67. In addition to running, he was an avid hiker and mountaineer.

#### General Criteria:

- Developing and applying a high level of administrative/organizational management skill to their club
- Pursuing community involvement through: financial donations, scholarship programs, volunteer support, and developing relationships within the community which benefit the mission and goals of the club
- Encouraging children and youth running
- Accomplishing club membership growth
- Offering increasing opportunities for running, training and participating in events.
- Promoting the social aspects of running
- Demonstrating that effective communication is the cement that holds everything together
- Recognizing the volunteers of the club

## **RRCA ROAD RUNNER OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

Developed in the 1975, the Road Runner of the Year Award was given to the runners with the most outstanding record of racing performances during the past year for Male and Female runners. In 1984 RRCA added the categories, Male Masters and Female Masters. For the open category, 3 top male and female candidates will be chosen and the running community at-large will vote for the final winner on the RRCA website.

### General Criteria:

#### Open Male/Female:

- Evaluated on running performance and accomplishments during the year
- Types of races run and placement in those events
- Participation in RRCA State, Regional, or National Championship Race

#### Masters Male/Female (40+):

- Evaluation of performance and accomplishments in age group
- Participation in an RRCA State, Regional or National Championship race
- Participation in grassroots running within the community; coaching, club involvement, children's running, etc.

## **RRCA JERRY LITTLE JOURNALISM AWARDS**

(Club Newsletter (small & large club), Club Writer, Professional Writer, & Electronic newsletter)

Jerry W. Little, JR., who was president of the Electric City Printing Company, Anderson, SC, from 1969-1986, died of lung cancer in 1986. A graduate of Auburn University, Jerry was a Navy veteran and was prominent in business and political circles in the Anderson area. He had been an athlete all his life but took up running in the 1970's, becoming a devotee and advocate of the sport until his death. In 1990 his brother, Michael Little, who had succeeded Jerry as company president, felt that it would be appropriate for the Electric City Printing to fund the RRCA's journalism awards since Jerry loved running, was in the printing industry, and was a great believer in assisting others.

### **Club Newsletter Award:**

This award recognizes the outstanding club newsletter of the year. The award recognizes clubs with fewer than 500 members and large clubs with 500 or more members. Please mail 6 copies of your 2 best newsletters for the year to the National Office.

### General Criteria:

- Graphics: Art, logos, RRCA logo (the RRCA logo must appear on all newsletters to be considered).
- Competition: content of interest primarily to competitive runners
- Non-competition: content of interest to noncompetitive runners
- Calendar of races and results
- Club news: meetings, reports, president's and editor's columns, membership application or renewal notice, other general information for club
- News: original news information; RRCA information
- Feature Article: Original articles by the members (race reviews, member profiles, stories, advice, injury prevention, etc)
- Distinctive characteristics—those aspects which make the newsletter different, exceptional or appealing to the readers

### **Club E-Newsletter Award:**

Started in 2006, this award recognizes the use of technology in communicating with members. It is open to any size club. The e-newsletter can be emailed to members or clearly posted on a website and should be in PDF or HTML format. The e-newsletter should look like a newsletter and not simply be a page on a club website. When printed, it should look like a newsletter suitable for mailing. For an example, review the RRCA e-magazine, FOOTNOTES. Submit the nomination form and a web link for where the newsletter is

posted (must provide password if in posted in a private section) or email a PDF of the newsletter to [office@rrca.org](mailto:office@rrca.org).

General Criteria:

- Graphics: Art, logos, RRCA logo (the RRCA logo must appear on all newsletters to be considered).
- Competition: content of interest primarily to competitive runners
- Non-competition: content of interest to noncompetitive runners
- Calendar of races and results
- Club news: meetings, reports, president's and editor's columns, membership application or renewal notice, other general information for club
- News: original news information; RRCA information
- Feature Article: Original articles by the members (race reviews, member profiles, stories, advice, injury prevention, etc.)
- Distinctive characteristics—those aspects which make the newsletter different, exceptional or appealing to the readers.

**Club Writer Award:**

This award recognizes top club writers. This is an opportunity to showcase your club writer's articles. The articles should be about running and should be memorable, creative and evocative. Please email 3 articles to [office@rrca.org](mailto:office@rrca.org).

General Criteria:

- This award recognizes top club writers.
- The articles should be about running and should be memorable, creative and evocative.

**JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE AWARD**

This award, created in 1974, is given to a professional writer who has made the most notable contribution to the literature of distance running.

General Criteria:

- A professional writer that promotes the virtues of and supports grassroots running through their writing
- Is compensated for their writing
- Is published in a national or regional publication

**ROD STEELE OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD**

Rod Steele was a DC Road Runner Club President in 1974 until a plane crash took his life. This award is in memorial to his contributions to the sport of running as a volunteer and supporter of the RRCA. This award is given to recognize the outstanding volunteer (excluding the president) of a local club.

General Criteria:

- Dedicated volunteer to the local running club
- Supporter of the RRCA
- Making a contribution in the sport of running
- RRCA Club must be in good standing
- Member stands out amongst the rest

**RRCA OUTSTANDING STATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE YEAR AWARD**

State Representatives provide assistance, guidance and information to clubs and events in their state. They are the local representation of the RRCA. This award was developed in 1984 to recognize the outstanding and superior service of our state representatives. It is an opportunity to honor your state representative who fulfills their role with ambitious enthusiasm helping to promote running and the RRCA while assisting the local clubs with knowledge, communication and guidance.

General Criteria:

- Promotion of RRCA's programs and services at the local level within the state
- Support to the local running club
- Coordination of Club Information
- Communicates with local clubs on a regular schedule
- Promotes RRCA Championship races by granting RRCA members with championship status to their races
- Active participation with other State Reps/Activities
- Conducts annual state meetings to encourage clubs to meet one another and work together

**RRCA KURT STEINER OUTSTANDING YOUTH PROGRAM DIRECTOR AWARD**

Kurt Steiner was born in Austria in 1921. He came to the US in 1945. He, along with Joe Kleinerman, of the NYCRRRC pioneered age group scoring and awards. His passion for running was surpassed by his passion for children. Steiner helped to organize many running events for children and established the first RRCA Cross Country Championship in NYC, which hosted between 3,000 and 4,000 kids.

The Kurt Steiner Outstanding Youth Program Director award recognizes a local club member who is dedicated to either promoting children's running and/or coordinating an outstanding children's running program. The program director should be a volunteer and not a paid staff member of an organization.

General Criteria:

- Those who have done a significant job in promoting, developing and managing a children's running program in their community.
- Program should engage children of various ages, races, and socio-economic status.
- Program should be open to both boys and girls
- Additional consideration should be given to program that utilize the RRCA's children's running curriculum information to launch and maintain the program
- Work to collaborate with the community to encourage children's involvement in the running program

**RRCA OUTSTANDING BEGINNING RUNNING PROGRAM AWARD**

In 1996 the RRCA started the Women's Running Award in honor of the contributions of Fred Lebow, Nina Kuscsik, and Kathrine Switzer for their outstanding leadership in ensuring access for women runners at any distance. In the 50<sup>th</sup> year of the RRCA, participation by women in running events at all distances is nearly equal to that of men. In recognition of this equality in access to events and running programs, the RRCA transitioned this award in 2008 to focus on programs that engage new or returning runners to the sport, regardless of their gender. Women's only programs will continued to be considered for this award

General Criteria:

- Multi-week training program that engages both men & women that are new or returning to the sport of running
- A program that engages new participants in the sport and works to keep them involved, not just get them to the finish line of a marathon
- A program or event that promotes running as a lifelong activity and not just a race distance goal
- A program that teaches new runners how to safely increase their event distance such as a 5k, 10k, Half-marathon, marathon step training program
- Engages an RRCA Certified Coach in the program

**RRCA ROAD RACE OF THE YEAR**

In 2006, the RRCA launched the Road Race of the Year to acknowledge RRCA nonprofit member races that provide safe, well-designed and enjoyable races that promote grassroots running and the mission of the RRCA.

General Criteria:

- Must be an RRCA member,
- Any size road race,
- Must be organized as a nonprofit event or nonprofit club race,
- Must be all volunteer run (no contract race director, but can contract for chip and finish line services),
- Race attests to follow best practices as outlined by the RRCA,
- No insurance claims for the year
- Volunteer involvement, and
- RRCA logo included on race materials & website.
- Additional Criteria: age group recognition beyond 50+, RRCA Championship or WDF events, and uses RRCA preferred on-line provider

**WEBSITE AWARD**

This award honors and recognizes those who have brought technology into their clubs as a means of communication and done so in an organized, efficient and technological manner. The website will be judged by the first impression, layout and graphic design, ease of navigation, use of technology, depth of content, up-to-date information, uniqueness, personality and contribution to the RRCA. Awards will be given to small (250 and fewer members) and large (over 250 members) club websites. A top Website will be chosen from the finalists.

General Criteria:

- The website will be judged by the following:
- RRCA logo on homepage
- First Impression
- Layout/Graphic Design
- Ease of Navigation
- Use of Technology
- Depth of Content
- Up-to-Date
- Uniqueness/Personality
- Contribution to RRCA

**RRCA OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PROGRAM**

See the RRCA website at [www.RRCA.org/services/awards](http://www.RRCA.org/services/awards) for more information.