



Guidelines and Procedures For Mack Gerighty and Lifetime Achievement Awards

(revised Jun 11, 2005)

Awards Committee:

1. Membership: The members of the Awards Committee will be the Chair, appointed by the Chair of Great Outdoors, the Board Representative of each chapter, and the three elected Board members (Chair, Financial Officer, and Secretary).
2. Voting Procedure:
 - A. Six weeks prior to the last Board of Directors Meeting before the commencement of the Annual Conference, the Awards Committee chair shall send to the Board Representative and President of each Core Group the evaluation criteria and nomination form for each of the awards to be voted on. The deadline for submission of nominations shall be the beginning of the last Board of Directors Meeting prior to the Annual Conference. However, the materials sent to the Core Groups shall urge the Core Groups to return their nomination forms at least one week prior to the meeting so that they may be photocopied for all members of the awards committee.
 - B.
 - 1) At the conclusion of the Board of Directors meeting, the Awards Committee members shall convene. The Awards Committee shall review the nomination forms for each award to be presented and discuss the nominees. When the Committee members feel that they are ready to vote, the voting will take place.
 - 2) The voting will be conducted as follows: Each Award Committee member shall vote for their choice by secret ballot. The ballots will be given to the Committee Chair, who will tally the ballots. If no nominee receives a simple majority vote, the Committee Chair will ask the members if they wish to take another vote. The second vote shall be taken using the names of the two highest vote getters. If this process does not result in a winner, the Committee will be asked if they wish to vote again, until they either decide on a winner or decide not to give an award.
 - 3) The votes shall be by secret ballot, and the Committee Chair and GO Board Chair shall be the only persons knowing the outcome of the vote. The ballots shall be kept in a sealed envelope signed by the members of the Committee. Once a winner is determined, the Committee Chair will make any arrangements for engravings, etc. by dealing directly with the engraver or other party. Immediately prior to presenting the award at the Annual Conference, the Committee shall reconvene and the Committee Chair will open the signed, sealed envelope in the presence of the Committee Members and show them the ballots to ensure that the awardee is actually the person who the committee voted on.

3. Committee Guidelines: The Committee shall review activities from September 1 to August 31 annually. The Committee shall operate in a fair and impartial manner. It is not mandatory to give an award each year. Only one person shall be given an award, i.e., there shall be no ties. A person may receive each award only once. The Committee Chair will convene the meeting, distribute the nominations to the members, tally the votes, and facilitate the meeting.

4. Awards:

Mack Gerighty Leadership Award

Criteria: Current member in good standing demonstrating outstanding leadership for the current activities year, in the areas of hiking, backpacking, overnight camping, and/or outreach. Person who most exemplifies by character and action in the area of outdoor leadership that which Mack Gerighty would have approved of. Adheres to the GO Code of Conduct and exhibits good character. A graduate of Wilderness Education training or one who meets the definition of a qualified leader. A trip leader on at least three outings or major activity for the year.

Lifetime Achievement Award

Criteria: Current member in good standing with minimum of five years service including current active participation, in various capacities. Membership requirement is not necessarily for five consecutive years of membership. Must have participation in some leadership role in the current year. Represents ideals and purposes of the organization, demonstrating leadership qualities in education, organization, guidance, participation, promotion and integrity. Shows by example of efforts a lasting legacy of what the person has done for and with the organization on the chapter and Board level.

5. Nominations-. A member of Great Outdoors who meets the criteria for an award may be nominated by any Core Group, the Board of Directors, or any member of Great Outdoors in Good Standing. Nominations are encouraged to be made on the nomination forms to be supplied to the Core Groups, but use of the forms is not required. The nomination form for the Mack Gerighty Leadership Award shall contain a brief biography of Mack Gerighty, describing his service to Great Outdoors and his vision for the organization.

6. Recognition: The winners of each award shall be given a plaque at the Annual Conference. The size and cost of the plaques will be determined by the Board of Directors.