



AMERICAN ROSE SOCIETY

Silver Honor Medal Rules and Regulations

Purpose

Each District of the American Rose Society may annually award the American Rose Society Silver Honor Medal to any ARS member who is an official member of that District who, in the opinion of the District Awards Committee, has provided meritorious service to the rose and its culture, for efforts expended in support of the American Rose Society and its objectives within the District. Nominees for the Silver Honor Medal shall not have previously received the award.

Exceptions

The Silver Honor Medal may be awarded to an ARS member who has moved their official membership away from the awarding District; however, the recipient must have maintained official membership in the awarding District for at least six months of the calendar year preceding the year of the award.

The Silver Honor Medal may be awarded posthumously except in the case where the nominee has died subsequent to the submission of that person's nomination in the current year under consideration. Such a nomination may not be carried over to a subsequent year. An exception to this general rule shall apply in the case of a team if at least one member of the team is living at the time of the nomination.

Conflict of Interest Avoidance

The District Director and the District Member of the National Nominating Committee (who shall be the District Awards Chairman) shall **not** be eligible to receive this award. Members of the District Awards Committee or any member of their immediate family shall be eligible to receive this award. If nominated (including a family member) for the award, Member must immediately withdraw from the complete balloting and awarding process. Local Society may elect to name another member to the Committee.

Composition of Committee

The District Awards Committee shall be composed of a Chairman elected by the District serving as District Member of the National Nominating

Committee, and one representative appointed by the President of each Chapter or Affiliated Club or Society. The term of office for these members shall coincide with the three-year term of office of the District Director. Appointed Members are limited to serving two consecutive terms. No one person or family member may represent more than one society and one vote when either nominating or voting on a person or persons for the District Silver Honor Medal.

Silver Medal Award

The Medal and Certificate used for this Award shall be the standard American Rose Society Silver Medal and Certificate and may be procured from the Executive Director. The cost of the Medal and Certificate shall be borne by the District.

Procedures

Selecting candidates should begin by March 1 of each year. At the opinion of the District Awards Chairman, the procedures may begin early in January. The Awards Chairman shall supply each Committee Member via email a copy of these rules, along with a nominating form similar to that used in nominating national officers. Quorum necessary to proceed with balloting is two thirds of the Chapter or Affiliated Clubs or Societies within the District.

Each Committee member (consultation with the Executive Committee of their Local Society is permitted), may nominate one candidate. As a guide in selecting a candidate, the Committee Member shall use the following point system to rank and rate their accomplishments:

- (1) one point for local society work;
- (6) points total for District work;
- (3) points total for National ARS service;
- (10) points total possible score

Work within the District must outshine all other work. The nominating form, filled out and containing a brief biographical sketch of the candidate, along with any special qualifications the nominee has for receiving this Award, shall be signed by the member and shall be returned to the Committee Chairman on or before the date designated by the Committee Chairman.

Nominations that are not selected may be resubmitted the following year without change provided the sponsor continues to remain eligible to sponsor a nominee. Supplementary information to the nomination may be added by the sponsor.

The District Awards Chairman shall compile all information and qualifications of the candidates without revealing the name of the sponsor. No later than May 1, the Chairman shall send the list of all nominees with their current qualifications and contributions to the District, to each member of the Committee for an electronic vote. The ballot shall also provide for a "No Medal to be Awarded" designation.

The Chairman shall observe strict confidentiality when communicating electronically with Committee Members to protect the individual's email address and identity. The Chairman shall assign a security code to each Committee Member to be used when reporting all tabulations of votes received to allow Members to validate their votes were reported correctly. At least two-thirds of the Societies' representatives must respond, including the "No Medal To Be Awarded" designation.

All ballots must be returned by the date set by the District Awards Chairman. If no candidate receives a majority vote on the first ballot, the names of the two candidates (or multiple if a tie) receiving the most votes, may be returned to the Committee for further balloting. Balloting may continue until a candidate receives a majority of the votes. Should the balloting end in a tie with two candidates each receiving 50% of the votes, two medals may be awarded.

Districts with 1500 or more members shall have the option of awarding two Silver Honor Medals in each year. Each District SHM Committee member shall vote for two candidates. If two or more candidates are named on 50% or more of the ballots (by 50% or more of the voters), then the top two will be declared the winners and no further balloting is needed.

If only one candidate is named on 50% or more of the ballots, then they are automatically the winner and then the next two candidates will have a run-off. The winner by majority vote will also receive the medal.

If no candidate is named on 50% or more of the ballots, the second ballot will only list the top three candidates and each committee member shall vote for two candidates. The top two majority vote winners will receive the medals.

If there is a tie on any ballot for the final medal, then there will be another ballot, with the majority vote winner receiving the medal.

The District Awards Chairman shall submit to the Executive Director and the District Director a tabulation of the final vote indicating the recipient of the District Silver Honor Medal. Until the Executive Director and the District Director give final approval, the Committee Chairman and the District Director must keep the results of this award in strictest confidence.

The Silver Honor Medal may be awarded jointly to a married couple or domestic partner team if, in the opinion of the Committee, they are deserving of the award and meet the requirements. In such cases, two medals would be appropriate for presentation.

Ethical Responsibilities

It is unethical to campaign or solicit support for or against any candidate by email, mail, telephone or personal contact. Any such violation or irregularity should be reported to the Chairman of the Prizes & Awards Committee for resolution with subsequent revision of rules to prevent further occurrences. Revisions are subject to approval of the Board of Directors.

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