

DONNA JEAN MOONEY MEMORIAL AWARD

Attached is an application for the Donna Jean Mooney Memorial Award which is presented by the Rochester-Monroe County Certified Swimming Officials in memory of Mrs. Mooney. Donna was a member of the RMCCSO for 36 years. Besides officiating, she was a member of the Executive committee for 30 years helping to direct the activities of the group and keep our members among the top officials in the state. A plaque will be given in her name twice a year- once at the Fall Sectionals and once again at the Winter Sectionals- to the swimmer/diver who best exemplifies Donna's qualities of team spirit and dedication to the sport of swimming.

Eligibility: The Donna Jean Mooney Memorial Award is given to the Junior or Senior swimmer/diver from the, **Monroe County City – Catholic** or **Genesee County Leagues** who best meets the following criteria:

- Has longevity in the sport
- Is a hard working student and swimmer/diver
- Is a positive force on the team
- Takes initiative

The focus on the award is on character, sportsmanship and commitment. Nominees do not have to be leaders or superstars in the pool or classroom.

Process: The swimmer/diver must be nominated by his/her coach who fills out the application. The swimmer/diver then completes an essay (of not more than 300 words) that is submitted along with the application.

Deadline: Postmarked or E-mailed by **Monday Jan. 30, 2012** (no late applications accepted)

Mail or E-mail: The completed application along with the essay should be sent to:

Cindy McFadden
4276 Lake Avenue
Rochester, New York 14612
585-615-2420
cynthia7000@yahoo.com

DONNA JEAN MOONEY MEMORIAL AWARD

OFFICIATING CHRONOLOGY:

- 1970 –Joined the Rochester-Monroe County Chapter of the New York State Certified Swimming Officials (one of 25 new members)
- 1976-1977 – Secretary for the Girls’ Season (1 yr.)
- 1977-1981 – Secretary (4 yrs.)
- 1981-1983 – Second Vice President (2 yrs.)
- 1983-1987 – President (4yrs.)
- 1987-2005 – Past President (19 yrs.)
- 30 years on Executive Committee/36 years an official

Donna Jean Mooney was a wife, a mother, a teacher, and a swimming official. In October 2005 she suddenly passed away leaving a legacy of devotion to the sport of swimming which we, the Rochester-Monroe County Swimming Officials, hope to maintain by keeping her memory alive through the Donna Jean Mooney Memorial Award.

By the end of her first five years as an official, Donna had achieved the rating of “referee” in a time when most women were content to remain at the level of judge. She was a teacher and used her teaching skills to help her fellow officials improve their own techniques. As Second Vice President she was put in charge of implementing and supervising an effective rating system for the advancement of officials. Donna helped with training sessions for not only new officials but also for the seasoned veterans. Her extraordinary guidance came naturally. She had a knack for knowing what a person needed. Donna had a positive spirit and her optimism seemed to rub off on the people around her.

Donna was highly respected by her colleagues. It was more than her many years of experience and meticulous, professional attitude that earned her such admiration. Donna’s endless passion for the sport was reflected in everything she did. Donna loved swimming and the swimmers. Her husband says, “When she put on her uniform, she glowed with happiness.” Officiating was her outlet and she felt that being with the kids kept her young. Donna was always a pleasure to work with. She made everyone feel like an essential part of the team. No matter how hectic and hot a swim meet was, Donna always kept her cool. The award given in her name reflects her spirit, longevity and dedication to the sport of swimming.

Student Essay

In 300 words or less describe your experience as a high school swimmer. Some of the things that you may want to include are what the sport means to you, what you like or dislike about your team, how swimming has helped you grow as a person, what competition has done for you, and if the hours of practice swimming up and down the pool were really worth it.

Student's Name (printed) _____

Student's Signature _____