

BEEKEEPER OF THE YEAR CRITERIA

Maine State Beekeepers Association Beekeeper of the Year award is given annually to a beekeeper who has, over a period of years, demonstrated and promoted good beekeeping, improved the public image of the industry, and served the industry as a volunteer.

The candidate for the award must be a member in good standing of MSBA and shall be nominated by a local chapter, an MSBA member in good standing or by a member of the MSBA Board of Directors. The candidate also must currently own or manage honey bee colonies in the state of Maine.

Nomination is made by letter or email to the MSBA president one week prior (**by September 8, 2022**) to the Board of Directors meeting held the month before the Annual Meeting.

The letter should outline what the candidate has done to promote beekeeping and educate beekeepers, prospective beekeepers and the non-beekeeping public over a period of time. Activities such as teaching beekeeper short courses or chapter bee schools, presentations to community organizations, demonstrations at fairs (county, state, horticulture or environmental), volunteering for the State and local beekeeping organizations and media interviews or presentations will all be considered.

The board will evaluate the nominations submitted and select one winner to be announced at the Annual Meeting.

A Junior Beekeeper of the Year Award is also given when suitable nominations are received. That person must also be a member in good standing of the MSBA.

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CRITERIA

Purpose: To recognize a beekeeper, or beekeeping couple, who have over a period of years promoted the value of beekeeping in Maine. The award will be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Criteria: the nominee should have demonstrated the value of honey bees to the non-beekeeping public and have supported the efforts of Maine beekeepers over the years. The nominee does not need to be a current member of MSBA.

Nomination: A letter or email outlining how the candidate has reached out to the general public as well as beekeepers over the years should be submitted to the MSBA president one week prior (**by September 8, 2022**) to the Board of Directors meeting held in the month before the Annual Meeting. The letter can be addressed to president@mainebeekeepers.org and may be submitted by any chapter, MSBA member or by a member of the MSBA Board of Directors.

The nomination letter should include examples of activities such as teaching bee schools and other instructional work, speaking to the general public, mentoring new beekeepers and serving as a source of knowledge to new beekeepers.

Selection: The Board will evaluate any nominations submitted and those chosen for the award will be announced at the Annual Meeting. A plaque honoring the recipient will be presented. It is suggested that the recipient, and a guest if requested, be invited to attend the Annual Meeting at no charge as guests of the MSBA.

A nomination form may be downloaded from the MSBA website's home page, or a PDF can be sent to you by contacting MSBA president Judith Stanton at 376-7888 or president@mainebeekeepers.org. Awards will be presented at the MSBA Annual Meeting on October 15, 2022.

