

Excellence in Beekeeping Awards Criteria

Awards are presented by MSBA each year at the Annual Meeting for recognition of excellence in beekeeping and contributions to the Maine beekeeping community.

The **Beekeeper of the Year Award** is given to someone (or a couple) who has consistently demonstrated excellent honey bee management practices; served as a source of knowledge and skills to new beekeepers through mentoring or teaching at bee schools or other instructional venues; and promoted the value of honey bees to the non-beekeeping public. These activities may include, but are not limited to: making presentations to community entities such as garden clubs, scouts, 4-H, schools, at county/state fairs; and active involvement or leadership in state and local beekeeping organizations. Candidates must have kept honey bee colonies in Maine for at least five years, and been an active member of MSBA for the same time period.

The **Junior Beekeeper of the Year Award** is given to someone aged 18 or younger who has shown a strong interest and aptitude in beekeeping. They must also be a member in good standing of the MSBA.

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes a beekeeper who has continued to accomplish the criteria for Beekeeper of the Year over a very long period of time. The award will be given at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Nominations can be made by a local chapter, a member in good standing of MSBA, or the MSBA Board of Directors. Letters should be brief and include criteria described above, and **must be received by September 20th**. **Any nomination letters that arrive past that date cannot be considered.** The Board will evaluate the nominations submitted and select one winner in each category to be announced at the Annual Meeting.

Please email the letter to MSBA president Judith Stanton at jws77@me.com
For questions please email, call or text her at 207-376-7888

**Please do not use the old "MSBA Beekeeper of the Year Nomination" form.*