

Excellence in Beekeeping Awards

MSBA is accepting nominations for Beekeeper of the Year, Junior Beekeeper of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Award. Each year at the Annual Meeting individuals are recognized for excellence in beekeeping and their contributions to the Maine beekeepers community.

Nominations can be made by a local chapter or an MSBA member in good standing (meaning you are current with dues). They should be brief and include criteria described below, and **must be received by Tuesday, September 17th. 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 on October 19th in Bucksport.

The **Beekeeper of the Year Award** is given to someone 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, libraries and 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. Beekeeping couples are also considered.

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 be an MSBA member in good standing.

The **Lifetime Achievement Award** recognizes a beekeeper who has continued to perform the criteria for Beekeeper of the Year over a very long period of time. The nominee does not need to be a current member of MSBA.

The nomination should be emailed to MSBA president Beth Goodwin at president@mainebeekeepers.org