

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Policies and Procedures

POLICIES:

1. It is the responsibility of the Scholarship Committee to encourage college attendance and provide financial assistance to Tidewater Striders members.

PROCEDURES:

1. Eligibility is open to any Tidewater Striders member who is a graduating high school senior or current college student, who has been a member of the club for at least six months (Dr. Mel Williams Memorial Scholarship applicants require at least one year membership), and who is or has recently been a cross-country, track and field, road race runner/walker, or multi-sport athlete in the Hampton Roads area.

2. Scholarships shall be awarded for one year in an amount determined by the Scholarship committee and approved by the board. Recipients of memorial scholarships shall receive an additional stipend. The scholarship committee can recommend that a scholarship be split or shared in the event of a tie.

3. The number of scholarships awarded each year, inclusive of the Tom Bashara. Pamela Edwards, and Dr. Mel Williams Memorial Scholarships, may vary from year to year, and the monetary amounts awarded for individual scholarships may vary between \$500 and \$3,000, with the exception of the Dr. Mel Williams Scholarship which may be awarded up to \$5,000. The total monetary amount of scholarships awarded each year will be limited by the annual budgeted funding for scholarship awards, but will also vary based on the strength of the applicant pool. The total monetary amount of scholarships awarded can be adjusted above the budget if recommended by the scholarship committee and approved by the board in conjunction with the board review and approval of the committee's recommended awards.

4. For the majority of scholarships awarded, priority shall be given to individuals applying for their freshman year of college. For the Dr. Mel Williams Scholarship, priority will be given to graduate school applicants and students or college upper classmen with demonstrated potential for graduate study or postgraduate professional certification training. Scholarships may be awarded to former recipients or applicants who remain eligible based on these criteria.

5. Scholarship recipients must reapply each year to continue receiving scholarship funds.

6. Applications must be submitted to the Scholarship Committee by April 15. Applications for the Dr. Mel Williams Memorial Scholarship may be considered out of the normal cycle because graduate degree or professional certification programs may operate outside the normal academic year. Eligible candidates shall be nominated by the Scholarship Committee to the Board of Directors. Consideration shall be based on (in no particular order, and not limited to):

A. length of membership and participation in the Tidewater Striders.

- B. volunteerism (applicant and/or family) to the Tidewater Striders.
- C. athletic achievement as a runner/walker/multi-sport athlete with emphasis on interscholastic competition at the high school and/or college levels.
- D. academic achievement.
- E. community service.

7. Financial procedures. The club's scholarship funds are accounted for separately from the general operating fund.

A. All funds donated to the club for scholarships and the net profits from all designated events for scholarship fund raising shall be restricted to scholarships. These funds shall be maintained in interest bearing accounts proposed by the Treasurer and approved by the board.

B. The Board may approve awarding "named" scholarships. All funds donated to the club for any named scholarship and the net profits from all events designated to raise funds for a named scholarship shall be restricted to scholarships given in the designated name. These funds shall be maintained in interest bearing accounts proposed by the Treasurer.

C. The Treasurer will disburse funds for scholarships approved by the Board of Directors. Scholarship funds will be sent, in the recipient's name, to the financial aid office of the institution the recipient will attend. Funds are usually disbursed on a semester basis with one half for the fall semester and one half for the spring semester.

APPROVED: March 6, 2017