

AOASM Local Chapter Award – Altruistic Chapter of the Year

The AOASM student executive board, including the student advisor, national student chair, national student vice-chair and each of the five regional representatives shall vote on an altruistic chapter of the year.

The “Altruistic Chapter of the Year” will be voted on based upon the following criteria:

- I. The cumulative amount of altruistic activity performed by a chapter will be the singular criteria used for winning Altruistic Chapter of the Year
- II. The definition of an “altruistic” event will ultimately be decided upon on a case-by-case basis when the eligibility of any given event is questionable, though an attempt to define an altruistic event using a common scenario is listed below
- III. It should be important to note that covering any “typical” athletic event will be considered a sports medicine-related activity. Such an event would not be considered an altruistic event.
However, if an athletic event is covered as part of a charitable organization, fundraiser or service project then said event will be considered an altruistic event. As noted in point II, this will be up for case by case interpretation by the student executive board.
For example:
 - a. Covering a high school, middle school, AAU, club or collegiate soccer game would not constitute an altruistic event
 - b. However, covering a Special Olympics event, such as a soccer tournament, would be considered an altruistic event given that this is a volunteer role in a charitable organization
- IV. Special events, like those listed below will also be considered altruistic if they serve the community at large, a special/needy population or a charitable organization
 - a. Such events include but are not limited to:
 - i. Fundraisers – local, regional, national or international
 - ii. Community improvement projects
 - iii. Charitable events
 - iv. Service projects -- local, regional, national or international
 - v. Donation drives
 - vi. Special charitable athletic events
 - vii. Other events subject to review by student executive board
- V. It should be noted that altruistic events, donations and funds raised are not limited to the realm of sports medicine or sport-related events
- VI. Voting Criteria

- a. At the end of the calendar year, each regional representative will select 0-3 schools from their respective region based on the school's altruistic activity during that academic year
 - i. This list of nominated schools will be sent to the AOASM National Chair and Vice Chair approximately six weeks prior to the annual national conference
- b. If more than ten schools are nominated across all regions then an initial vote will take place five weeks prior to the national conference
 - i. At this vote each member of the student executive board will be asked to vote for their top four schools
- c. After all votes have been tallied the four schools receiving the most votes will move on to a final vote
 - i. This second (final) vote will occur the week immediately following the first vote
 - ii. Each member of the executive committee will be asked to vote for ONE school they find most deserving of winning altruistic chapter of the year
 - iii. The chapter with the most first place votes will be named the chapter of the year
 - There will be no restrictions on how many schools advance to the final four from any given region
 - iv. Any year in which there are ten or less nominated schools for altruistic chapter of the year, there will only be one vote
 - Said vote will coincide with the deadline for the national chapter of the year
 - Simultaneous deadlines will help limit the number of events/votes required for the AOASM Student Executive Committee

- VII. Analogous to national chapter of the year voting, each regional representative shall send out a comprehensive document (< 1 page, bullet point format) to establish a chapter's nomination for altruistic chapter of the year
- a. This will not only eliminate bias or favoritism but also give clubs ideas to incorporate into their curriculum
 - b. This list will include bullet-point format highlighting any events conducted by a nominated chapter as listed above in point IVa
 - c. Any event not listed in point IVa that a nominated chapter believes was altruistic may also be listed on the summary sheet for review by the student executive committee

- VIII. For all votes, a quorum of 7 voters must be met

- a. As with national chapter of the year voting, a winner must be chosen no later than 3 weeks prior to the national conference
- IX. All voting will occur through an online survey to be created by the student national chair or student national vice chair
 - a. Survey will be emailed to other members of student executive board in a timely fashion to ensure all of the above timelines are met and certificates will be available at the national conference
- X. The Altruistic Chapter of the Year award will be presented annually to a chapter representative at the national conference during the student/resident/fellow lunch