

NASO IT'S OFFICIAL

FOR MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPORTS OFFICIALS

MAY 2016

Collins to Receive Medallion

Don Collins, executive director of the San Francisco section of the California Interscholastic Federation and a longtime supporter of NASO's mission, has been named the recipient of the Mel Narol Medallion for 2016. The NASO board of directors selected Collins, who will receive the honor Tuesday, Aug. 2, at the Celebrate Officiating Gala.

Collins said it was humbling to be honored and he was floored when he received the news from Barry Mano, NASO president and founder.

"Receiving an award named for Mel makes you reflect on all the things that Mel did," Collins said.

"Don Collins not only has served four years as an NASO board member, he provides on an almost daily basis, input, advice and guidance in the areas of legal and insurance protections to the NASO staff," Mano said. "As a basketball official, a practicing lawyer and a California Section commissioner, Don blends a range of skills and experiences that enable him to help officials and NASO in a unique way. We have been blessed with his support."

Collins assists NASO with its Member Information and Consultation Program, writes columns for *Referee* magazine and NASO publications and participates in sessions at Summits. He is a longtime lawyer and basketball and track-and-field official.

"I'm grateful to be linked to Mel and I'm honored to stand in the company of past Medallion recipients," Collins said. "I think all of the recipients have made officiating and sports better. I also think we all work to achieve excellence in all aspects of our professional lives."

Collins said the award is more than just something to put on the

wall. "It's also something that you just have to live up to every day. I try to do that by working on behalf of students as an athletic commissioner, by working with and providing administrative and legal guidance to sports officials associations and by working to make the officiating industry stronger," he added. Collins said it was his aim to "make life easier and better for officials."

The award recognizes an individual or organization that has

made significant contributions to the betterment of NASO. Contributions might include, but are not limited to organizational leadership, education and training, promotion of officiating and NASO and sponsorship.

"I'm glad to be a small part of that and will try to live up to receiving an award named after Mel and presented by NASO," Collins said. □

2016 MEL
NAROL
MEDALLION

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COLLINS



MEL NAROL SPOTLIGHT

The Medallion Award was created in 2000 to "recognize an individual or organization that has made significant contributions to the betterment of sports officials and the officiating profession." In 2007, the criteria was changed to emphasize contributions to NASO.

2001 — Jerry Seeman
2003 — Mel Narol
(posthumously)
2004 — Fox 40 International
2005 — Dick Honig
2006 — Marcy Weston

2007 — Bill Kolbe
2008 — Ed T. Rush
2009 — Ronnie Carter
2010 — David Dodge
2011 — Alan Goldberger
2012 — Marriott Corporation

2013 — Gary Whelchel
2014 — California
Basketball Officials
Association (CBOA)
2015 — Patty Viverito