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Chapter VIII of FEPA Statutes stipulates that the Honours, Medals and Awards which may be awarded by FEPA, are the following:

a) Honorary Presidency

Articles 21.2 and 21.3 provide sufficient details as to how this honour may be awarded and, therefore, there is no need for any further elaboration.

b) FEPA Medal

Article 21.4 provides in general terms the raison d'être of this distinction. However, it requires clarification as well as the establishment of an appropriate procedure to be followed.

c) Certificate of Appreciation

Articles 21.5 - 21.7 provide the necessary details but again the appropriate procedure was left to be decided.

By simple reading of this Chapter it is easily recalled the corresponding articles 50 and 51 of FIP Statutes which were adjusted to accommodate the European needs.

In view of the above, paragraphs b and c require the necessary elaboration in order all FEPA Member-Federations be familiar with and at the same time the Board be consistent with the Awards procedure.

FEPA MEDAL

Article 21.4 provides the following:

FEPA Medal shall be awarded by the Board to candidates who have given exceptional service to organized philately or have demonstrated exceptional philatelic study and research or to persons who have given a significant service or support to philately

The above wording distinguishes three categories of candidates:

a) Exceptional service to organized philately

The above qualification applies to philatelists who, from their position as Presidents of International Philatelic Organizations (FIP, FEPA, AEP, AIJP, WADF etc) or National Organizations (Federations or similar institutions/organizations) or individual philatelists, have offered exceptional service to the European Philately, either a long-standing or an instant one (i.e. significant donations focused to the promotion of the organized philately in European level).

b) Exceptional philatelic study and research

The above wording may lead to misunderstandings as philatelic study and research may be shown by the publication of notable handbooks or by forming exceptional collections (that is to say exhibits, otherwise collections not shown do not represent any service).

As the article, in general, does not speak for distinguished philatelists or collectors or notable collections but only of service to philately, the meaning of the phrase is construed as a literary prize to be awarded to a European who has contributed with his study and research in printed form or otherwise to the furtherance of Philately (not necessarily the European one only).

c) Service or support to Philately

The above qualification applies rather to individuals, outside of the philatelic family, who have given a significant service or support to European Philately (i.e. Prime-Ministers, Ministers, high officials of European Union, Universal Postal Union, United Nations Organization and its branches and the like).

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Articles 21.5 – 21.7 provide the following:

21.5 FEPA Certificate of Appreciation may be presented to Philatelic Associations or Clubs for outstanding activities for the promotion of philately on regional or local level.

21.6 The award of the Certificate of Appreciation may be proposed by a member Federation or by the Board six months before the date of presentation.

21.7 The Certificate of Appreciation shall be presented at a suitable occasion to the Association or Club to be honored, by a Member of the FEPA Board or by the President of the national Federation.

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The following Regulations establish the procedure to be followed for the FEPA Medal and the Certificate of Appreciation Award.

FEPA AWARDS REGULATIONS

1. The national Federations-members of FEPA or the FEPA Board members may submit nominations of European candidates for the three categories of FEPA Medal and the Certificate of Appreciation. The nominations should be accompanied by an adequate statement of the status and qualifications of the candidate together with a photo and the candidate's consent.
2. Nominations should be submitted to the FEPA Director responsible for Literature and Awards, 1st December latest of each year.
3. The entire files of candidates together with the Director's proposals are submitted to the FEPA Board who decide and award the Medals and Certificates of the year.
4. The FEPA medals are presented at the FEPA Congress of the next year.
5. The Certificate of Appreciation in the form of an appropriate Diploma is presented next year at a suitable national occasion by a FEPA Board member or the President of the national Federation.
6. No more than one medal per category of FEPA medals or three Certificates of Appreciation may be awarded each given year.
7. The FEPA Board will be given the appropriate publicity to the awards (FEPA website, FEPA News magazine and press releases) and the responsible FEPA Director is entrusted with the keeping of the Awards records.
8. The present Regulations were approved by the FEPA Board on 29 January 2005 in Lisbon and are put immediately in force.

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PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR THE FEPA MEDAL

Following the adoption of the Regulations for the FEPA Honors, Medals and Awards by the FEPA Board and their publication in *FEPA News* no. 7, it was considered appropriate to bring to the attention of the member Federations the procedure which shall be followed for the implementation of the above.

1ST CATEGORY

Member Federations or Board members may up to 15 December each year propose a person or legal entity for this medal. The final decision will be taken by the Board.

2ND CATEGORY

This is a rather difficult procedure by its nature.

In view of the above, the following procedure has been adopted:

First step: The appointed delegate of FIP Literature Commission of each member Federation, as the most appropriate person, shall elect 1 or maximum 2 best books from his country published the given year.

It should be stressed that delegates should propose books which are considered eligible for a major award, as the FEPA medal, and not necessarily the best of their country which may be very good but not of a European status, as far as research is concerned.

This proposal will be verified and submitted by the local Federation so to secure a second internal screening and at the same time comply with the requirement that the proposers are in fact the member Federations.

Second step: From the list thus formed, 5-7 books will be nominated Candidates. In this task European jurors for Philatelic Literature will be asked to help, according to the language the books of the list are written, if necessary.

Third step: Member federations will subsequently be informed that their book has been nominated and asked to send at latest by 15 December 2008:

1. a photo of the author and a letter from him with his consent, to the delegated FEPA Director, Giancarlo Morolli, C.P. 83, I-20090 Segrate (MI), Italy)
2. one copy of the book to the FEPA President (Pedro Vaz Pereira, Federação Portuguesa de Filatelia, Av.. Almirante Reis 70, 3º Esq, 1150-020 Lisboa, Portugal).

The book will be submitted to FEPA Board together with the delegated FEPA Director's comments (including the comments of the selection judges), for final decision. With this, in fact, the Board will evaluate not only the book itself but rather its contribution in general and its eligibility for such a high award.

If member-Federations do not comply with the above requirements, the candidates shall be eliminated from the list.

Copies of Candidates books will remain to the library of FEPA President's Federation or will be donated to the UPU Library in Bern.

3RD CATEGORY

The procedure of first category will be followed.

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PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED FOR THE CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Any National Federation submitting a proposal for the FEPA Certificate of Appreciation should fill in the following analytical form, including any other details which may facilitate the FEPA Board to its decision:

The form should be attached to an official letter to the responsible Director, Giancarlo Morolli, latest by 15th December each year.

PROPOSAL FOR THE CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

Full name of the Society, Association, Union or Club

Seat

Date of foundation

Present number of Members

History

Distinctions or awards given by the Club

Frequency of Meetings (*place and time, whether in own premises or hired place*)

Publications (*other than journal*)

Journal (*name, history, technical details such as languages, pages, photos, color etc, awards received, general impact to the national philately, including a recent copy*)

Exhibitions organized

Achievements

Distinctions or awards received by the Club

Impact of organization's activities to the local society

Other details

Submitted by the National Federation (*stamp and signature of the appropriate person*)

<p>This form along with a letter of presentation of the proposing member Federation should be sent not later than 15th December of each year to FEPA Director, Giancarlo Morolli, C.P. 83, I-20090 Segrate (MI), Italy).</p>
