

Proposal to change ISMA Scholarship structure

Submitted by Capt. Christopher Edyvean, ISMA # 12291, Twin Port Lodge # 12, Grand Second Vice President

Background:

The ISMA has historically included three groups for scholarship consideration: (1) U.S. cadet; (2) Canadian cadet; (3) Hawsepipers of U.S. and Canada.

Discussion:

The current scholarship structure is biased toward maritime academy/college students on a 2:1 ration. "Hawsepipe" mariners endure proportionately similar financial and logistical challenges in obtaining an original license/credential. This may include but is not limited to: Tuition for maritime classes, travel/lodging while attending training courses or testing at regional facilities, license/credentialing fees, and the costs of study books, charts, and other materials.

Proposal:

To amend the ISMA scholarship program to provide equal opportunity. This could be achieved by offering one cadet and one hawsepipe scholarship annually out of pools encompassing both U.S. and Canadian candidates, but perhaps the better solution is to offer four annual scholarships, being one Hawsepipe and one Cadet scholarship from each side of the border.