



COMDTINST 1650.6
JAN 23, 2003

COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 1650.6

Subj: CDR RAY EVANS OUTSTANDING COXSWAIN TROPHY

Ref: (a) Boat Crew Qualification Guide, Volume II - Coxswain, COMDTINST M16114.11 (series)
(b) Boat Crew Qualification Guide, Volume V - Surfman, COMDTINST M16114.14 (series)
(c) CG Medals and Awards Manual, COMDTINST M1650.25 (series)

1. PURPOSE. This instruction establishes policies, procedures, and standards for the administration of the CDR Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Award.
2. ACTION. Area and district commanders, commanders of maintenance and logistics commands, commanding officers of headquarters units, assistant commandants for directorates, Chief Counsel, and special staff offices at Headquarters shall ensure that the provisions of this instruction are followed. Internet Release Authorized.
3. DIRECTIVE AFFECTED. None.
4. BACKGROUND. The CDR Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Trophy is hereby established to recognize enlisted coxswains who demonstrate exemplary performance and superior technical, professional, leadership, and seamanship abilities while operating a Coast Guard boat. The award's namesake, 'CDR Ray Evans', is one of the most celebrated heroes in Coast Guard history. CDR Evans received the Navy Cross, as a Signalman First Class, for his gallant efforts while fighting along side fellow coxswain Douglas Munro September 27, 1942 at Point Cruz on Guadalcanal. Evans provided covering fire for and evacuated elements of the 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, who were under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Lewis B. "Chesty" Puller. Evans remained at his post for the entire operation and, with every other member of his crew killed or wounded, he maintained control of the boat with one hand on the wheel and continued to fire his automatic machine gun with the other, until the last boat cleared the beach. Only those who displayed extreme acts of combat heroism and other distinguished service were awarded the Navy Cross. The CDR Ray Evans

DISTRIBUTION – SDL No. 140

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h	i	j	k	l	m	n	o	p	q	r	s	t	u	v	w	x	y	z
A																										
B		2	2		1		1							2				1								
C									2		2			2												
D				2				2																		
E																			1							
F																										
G																										
H																										

NON-STANDARD DISTRIBUTION:

Outstanding Coxswain Trophy winners will hold the distinction for one year. One enlisted member will hold the award.

5. DESCRIPTION. The award is a large bronze and wooden display plaque, which depicts an original lifeboat with a brief inscription. This plaque will be kept on permanent display at the Coast Guard Coxswain School in Yorktown, Virginia, with the name of each recipient and the date of award. A copy of the plaque will also be displayed at Coast Guard Headquarters. A miniature version of the plaque is presented to the new recipient upon transfer of the award. The award will be presented annually.

6. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.

a. CDR Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Trophy.

(1) To be eligible for the CDR Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Trophy, candidates must:

(a) Be a Coast Guard enlisted member who is serving on active duty at a boat force unit.

(b) Be certified as coxswain, or surfman in accordance with directives and guidelines in effect at the time of certification (reference (a) or (b),) on a standard Coast Guard boat and certification must be maintained throughout the entire year of eligibility.

(c) Personnel must have maintained Good Conduct eligibility, and not received a mark less than 4 in their enlisted evaluations for the entire award year.

(2) The CDR Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Trophy recipient will be:

(a) The candidate, who possesses the strongest combination of superior performance and technical, professional, leadership, and seamanship abilities in the boat forces community over the span of the year. Factors that will be considered include:

1. Underway time (Day and Night)

2. Development of other Coxswains and Boat Crew

3. Performance on standardization visits

4. Demonstrated operational skills and expertise

7. SELECTION PROCESS.

a. The steps in the selection process are outlined below:

(1) In January each year, Commandant (G-O) promulgates an ALCOAST message soliciting nominations of qualified candidates to be submitted via district commanders.

(2) In February each year, Commandant (G-O) convenes panel with the following membership:

- (a) Representatives from Commandant (G-OCS)
- (b) Two representatives from UTB System Center and National Motor Lifeboat School.
- (c) Master Chief Petty Officer of the Coast Guard
- (d) Boatswain's Mate Rating Force Manager

(3) Commandant (G-O) submits selection to Commandant (G-C) for approval.

- b. The panel shall select an award recipient based on the member's record and amplifying information in the nominees' package. Selection shall be based primarily upon performance and technical, professional, leadership, and seamanship abilities, and adherence to Coast Guard core values.
8. CEREMONY LOCATION. An appropriate award ceremony will be held at the Coast Guard Coxswain School in Yorktown, Virginia. Commandant (G-OCS) will pay for travel expenses, for the new recipient including spouses. Commandant (G-O) will serve as the Travel Approving Official for the purposes of the Ray Evans Outstanding Coxswain Ceremony.
9. QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS. This policy will be incorporated into the next change of the Coast Guard Medals and Awards Manual, COMDTINST M1650.25 (Series), reference (c). Questions should be directed to Commandant (G-OCS) at (202) 267-1313.
10. POLLUTION PREVENTION CONSIDERATIONS. Pollution Prevention considerations were examined in the development of this directive and have been determined not to be applicable.
11. FORMS/REPORTS. None.

DAVID S. BELZ /s/
Assistant Commandant for Operations

Encl: (1) Navy Cross Citation to Signalman Ray Evans

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

The President of the United States takes pleasure in presenting the NAVY CROSS to:

RAYMOND J. EVANS, CHIEF SIGNALMAN
UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

for services as set forth in the following

CITATION:

“For extraordinary heroism as a member of the crew of a Higgins boat assisting in the rescue of a group of Marines surrounded by enemy Japanese forces on a beachhead of Guadalcanal, Solomons Islands, on September 27, 1942. Although he knew that his boat was to be used for the purpose of drawing enemy fire away from other craft evacuating the trapped Marines, Evans, with utter disregard for his own personal safety, volunteered as a member of the crew. Gallantly remaining at his post during the entire evacuation and with every other member of his crew killed or wounded, he maintained control of the boat with one hand on the wheel and continued to fire his automatic machine gun with the other, until the last boat cleared the beach. By his great personal valor, skill and outstanding devotion to duty in the face of grave danger, he contributed directly to the success of his mission by saving the lives of many who otherwise might have perished.”

For the President

/S/ Frank Knox
Secretary of the Navy