

SUBJECT:	Award Nomination – Gold Parachuting Medal USA	AGENDA #	26.1.2
AUTHOR:	Jim Rees – ISC Delegate USA		
DATE:	29 September 2025	PAGES:	1



FAI Awards - Nomination Form

FAI Skydiving Commission (ISC)

(one form per nomination)

Submitted by - the FA/ Statutes 9.1.3.2			
NAC or ASC		United States Parachute Association	
Name		Jim Rees	
Position/Function		ISC Delegate	
Date	2025 September 29	Email Address	rees@uspa.org
Name of the Award		Description	Nomination
THE FAI GOLD PARACHUTING MEDAL <i>the FA/ By-Laws- 7.6.1</i>		<i>The Medal may be awarded annually for an outstanding accomplishment in connection with parachuting. This may be in the realm of sport, safety, or, at the option of the Commission, an invention. It cannot be awarded to delegates to the FA/ Parachuting Commission.</i>	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>
THE LEONARDO DA VINCI PARACHUTING DIPLOMA <i>the FA/ By-Laws- 7.6.2</i>		<i>. One Diploma may be awarded each year to a person who has achieved one of the criteria mentioned in the FA/ By-Laws - 7.6.2.2:</i>	
FAUST VRANCIC MEDAL <i>the FA/ By-Laws- 7.6.3</i>		<i>The Medal may be awarded, on the decision of the FA/ Parachuting Commission, for technical innovation or achievement in parachuting. It cannot be awarded to Delegates to the FA/ Parachuting Commission.</i>	
Nomination for			
First Name	Bill	Family Name	Morrissey
Birthdate	1938 July 28	Email Address	billmd516@gmail.com
Citations* for the Nomination <i>(Shall not exceeding 250 words based on the FA/ By-Laws 7.2.1)</i> <i>*Will be uploaded to FA/ Database and presented at fai.org</i>		<p>Bill Morrissey D-516 has profoundly shaped the evolution of modern parachuting through pioneering achievements in safety, instruction, and operational standards-most notably, as one of the key figures behind the development and implementation of tandem skydiving. His work transformed how thousands enter the sport each year, making skydiving more accessible, safer, and more sustainable as both a recreational and competitive discipline.</p> <p>As a co-architect of the tandem skydiving system in the early 1980s, Morrissey helped create training, operational, and safety protocols that are still in use today. His leadership was instrumental in bringing tandem skydiving from a bold concept to a globally accepted and regulated practice, paving the way for millions of first-time jumpers to experience freefall under the guidance of trained instructors. This advancement remains one of the most significant in the sport's history, broadening participation and providing a critical pathway into skydiving culture.</p> <p>In addition to his technical contributions, Morrissey is a prolific educator and advocate. His work on instructional methodology and safety standards helped shape the foundational policies of the United States Parachute Association and influenced best practices worldwide. A member of the International Skydiving Hall of Fame, his dedication to improving the sport's safety and accessibility continues to resonate across generations of skydivers.</p> <p>For his outstanding and lasting contributions to the development, safety, and growth of parachuting-particularly through his foundational role in the advancement of tandem skydiving-Bill Morrissey is a most deserving recipient of the FAI Gold Parachuting Medal.</p>	
Additional information about of the nominee Add the links website/social media, photos, articles etc. <i>(All in relation while practicing his/her sport or achievement he/she is nominated for)</i>		<p>Parachutist Profile: https://parachutist.com/Article/bill-morrissey-d-516</p> <p>Parachutist Article: https://www.uspa.org/you-people-did-whatthe-long-and-sometimes-crazy-history-of-skydiving-instructional-methods</p> <p>Skydiving Hall of Fame Induction: https://skydivingmuseum.org/member/bill-morrissey/Skydive</p> <p>Radio Interview: https://skydiveradio.com/sr222_07_13_16mp3</p> <p>Thrillist Article: https://www.thrillist.com/travel/nation/tandem-skydiving-history-florida</p>	
<p><i>All nominations must be received at the FA/ Secretariat in electronic format latest 60 days before the Commission Plenary Meeting based on the FA/ By-Laws 7.1.2.</i></p> <p><i>Please submit your nomination to commissions@fai.org</i></p>			