



## **Michael Heather – Southwest Candidate At-Large**

The Election Committee has deemed that *Michael Heather* is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated he is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Mark Moore* and received letters of recommendation from *Mark Moore* and *CJ Rushman*, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

**The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:**

**Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:**

All, since 1986

### **III. Section Three: Questions**

**Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?**

I would like to continue helping USMS move forward in an appropriate fashion. I have been an officer of the corporation for 8 years, an LMSC chair, vice chair and treasurer. I have been meet director for several championship meets and an open water event director. I know lots about USMS and how it operates.

**What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?**

Membership growth, fiscal responsibility and program review are big items. I would offer and support any programs to address these issues.

**Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:**

Convention Committee, 1986-2004. I was Chair from 1990-2004. I also served on Rules, Marketing, Planning, and was ex officio on many other committees over the years including Legislation, Fitness, Sports Medicine, Coaches, Championship and others.

**Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.**

Was a disaster responder for the American Red Cross for 3 years. I am familiar with many forms of philosophy.

**Please list any other information you would like included.**

None provided.

**Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting**

I have been an active participant in all board conversations and a champion for all members' interests. I will continue to do so for the good of USMS if I am elected to the position.

**Director At-Large Nomination For Southwest Zone. (SPMS)**

Letter of Nomination and Recommendation:

April 11, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby nominate Michael Heather for the position of Southwest Zone Director.

I have known Michael Heather as a swimmer and fellow SPMS Committee member for the past ten years. Michael has contributed to the growth of Masters Swimming in Southern California through his leadership with SPMS and USMS during the past 30 years.

Michael has contributed at most all leadership areas of Masters Swimming--from USMS National organization to Southern Pacific's local swimming committee.

Michael has the ability to look at an issue and work through it, to determine what is best for the organization given the overall needs of US Masters Swimming. He works diligently to create a positive result for all involved.

Michael has been a leader in encouraging others to get involved in the organization. His abilities and enthusiasm has become evident in his work with USMS over the many years. He truly shows lifelong passion for swimming by going above and beyond in his commitment to USMS.

In conclusion, Michael's strengths and administrative efforts combined with tireless hours working on committees and enthusiasm makes for a great candidate for the Southwest Zone Director. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Moore  
Southern Pacific Masters Chairperson  
Head Mission Viejo Nadadores Masters  
[www.mastersmvnswim.org](http://www.mastersmvnswim.org)  
949-233-6521

(May be published)

April 15, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger  
Chair, USMS Election Committee

Dear Cheryl,

I am recommending Michael Heather for the office of Southwest Zone Director.

Michael has been active for a long time in the administration of USMS and has very varied experiences in many aspects of our organization. He spent 23 consecutive years on the Board of Directors, and more recently had just finished four years as Vice President of Local Operations.

Michael always responds to questions and participates in discussions. He can be counted on to get a discussion started. Another trait that I value is that Michael Heather is not a "Yes Man." He will voice his disagreement and sometimes plays "devil's advocate" to bring out all sides of an argument. However, he listens to others and does not insist his way is the best way or the only way.

I have known Mike for more than 5 years and during that time he has always demonstrated both in and out of the pool, his passion for swimming. We have had many conversations about swimming history, technique, competition, as well as local, state and national issues as they pertain to USMS. He has strong views about many of these topics and is able to back them up with insight, experience and a practical knowledge of how to solve the most vexing problems.

Mike is a no nonsense individual who tackles a problem with energy and vigor. If Mike is in charge of a project, you can be assured that it will get done with a high level of competency and professionalism. As Southwest Zone Director, Mike will view that landscape and get things done.

I give my permission for this letter to be published in the HOD packet.

Christopher John Rushman