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CERTIFICATION TABLE HOURS

Wednesday 8:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday 7:00am – 7:45am

Marsalis A

Thursday afternoon thru Saturday

Back of HOD or come find Mary

MEET & GREETs

NEW DELEGATE LUNCHEON

Thursday 12pm – 1:30pm

Parrino's Oven

(Located in the Hyatt Regency Dallas atrium level)

MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

Thursday 3:45pm – 5:15pm – **Reunion G/H**

Meet the candidates running for USMS Officer Positions

"ROUND TABLE" LUNCH

Saturday 11:30am – 1:00pm – Reunion G/H

Enjoy your lunch while networking with your peers who do the same job as you do in the LMSC.

This will be an informal session where like officers will group together and discuss their positions and responsibilities. We hope to see lots of you there!

USMS HOSPITALITY SUITE

Room 396

The North Texas LMSC has graciously agreed to staff the USMS Hospitality Suite. The suite will be open beginning Thursday morning thru Saturday evening. Come socialize with other USMS volunteers in room 396

Thursday thru Saturday – opens at 7am and will be open whenever the HOD is not in session

[Full Hospitality Suite Schedule](#)

WORKOUTS

SWIM

Thursday and Friday

LISD Westside Aquatics Center

Workout will be from 5:30-6:30am

Bus will arrive at 4:30am and depart for the pool PROMPTLY at 4:45am From Trinity Crossings

Saturday

Southern Methodist University (SMU)

No showers or locker rooms at the pool

Workout will be from 6:00am-7:00am

Bus will arrive at 5:30am and depart for the pool PROMPTLY at 5:45am From Trinity Crossings

DRYLAND

Marsalis B

6:00am – 7:00am

Thursday & Saturday - Jennifer Masquelier

Friday - Dean Hawks

EVENING ACTIVITIES

WELCOME RECEPTION

Wednesday 7:00pm - 10:00pm

This will take place in the Marsalis A with cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

LMSC SOCIAL

Hosted by the North Texas LMSC

Dick's Last Resort BBQ

a short .8 mile walk from the Hyatt

Thursday 7:00pm – 9:00pm

[LMSC Social Flyer](#)

IMSHOF INDUCTION

Friday 6:00pm – 9:00pm

6:00-7:00 pm – Reception (cash bar)

7:00-9:00 pm – Induction Ceremony

Landmark A

All USMS delegates are invited (complimentary tickets) to attend the induction of U.S. Masters Swimmers

Anne Adams, Ann Hirsch, Danielle Ogier, Yoshi Oyakawa, Hugh Wilder

USAS BANQUET

Saturday 6:30pm – 10:00pm

Landmark B/C/D

Each USAS organization will present their annual awards. USMS presents the **Coach of the Year Award** and the **Ransom J. Arthur Award**.



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

ORIENTATIONS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Wednesday 6:00pm – 7:00pm – Cockrell

If you are a committee chair, Chris Colburn, USMS Secretary, will provide a Committee Chair Orientation on Wednesday pm. This is where you'll pick up your folder. Chris will explain the procedure for producing minutes and also for getting reimbursement. Zone Chairs should also attend this orientation, since they too will be chairing a meeting. Chris will be sending an email with the forms for you to print out or download to your laptop prior to convention.

LEADERSHIP ORIENTATION

Saturday 10:30am – 11:30am – Cockrell

We will provide a "New Board Member Orientation" for newly elected officers on Saturday. This orientation includes information on your responsibilities as an officer and a member of the USMS Board of Directors. This meeting is also open to those who are interested in serving as an officer in the future.

EDUCATION

ADULT LEARN TO SWIM INSTRUCTOR AND COACH CERTIFICATIONS

USMS is hosting the following educational opportunities on Wednesday, September 13, 2017

SpringHill Suites, 720 E Vista Ridge Mall Drive, Lewisville, TX 75067

USMS Adult Learn to Swim Instructor Certification

[Adult learn-to-swim Instructor Certification](#)

USMS Coach Certification

[Levels 1 & 2 Coach Certification](#)

For registration and more details please click the links above.

Presentations

Sports Medicine Presentation – All About Us - Results of the health status of USMS swimmers survey – Sally K. Guthrie, PharmD

Friday 12:00pm – 1:00pm – Reunion G/H

The presentation will include a synopsis of four publications resulting from a study of the USMS population. In 2010 a survey of health status was conducted in USMS members. These four resulting publications evaluated overall health, hypertension and treatment, statin use, and dietary supplement use in USMS respondents - in comparison to the general US population.

National Office Speed Dating – U.S. Masters Swimming National Office

Saturday 10:30am – 11:30am – Reunion G/H

Simple, easy and fun way to get to know more about the USMS National Office Team!



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SWIMMING**

LMSC WORKSHOPS

LMSC Standards: Everything that you wanted to know but were afraid to ask! – Hugh Moore

Friday 9:30am-10:30am – Bryan Beeman A/B

Hugh Moore brings us the key understanding of the LMSC Standards from the commonly complied to the most likely to be over looked. It's guaranteed to shed some insight on all of your inquiries.

Do You Have the Meet Officials You Deserve? – Brian Albright

Friday 9:30am-10:30am – Moreno A/B

Do you have trouble finding officials for your Masters meets? Are you always scrambling for officials so that you don't have to cancel the meet? Do you think the officials you have do a good job? This workshop will discuss how you can work with the officials community to staff your meet and how to certify your own officials through the USMS officials certification program.

Tech Crunch for the Swim World!

Friday 9:30am-10:30am – Reverchon A/B

What technology can your workout group, club, or LMSC be using to make a better USMS experience!

Mentoring vs. Coaching, Know the Difference– Futures Task Force Dan Cox

Friday 10:45am –11:45am – Bryan Beeman A/B

Mentoring is important for encouraging and training volunteers. But do you know how to mentor? Do you know the difference between mentoring and coaching? This workshop will give you tools and ideas for mentoring new volunteers and helping them expand their roles. Volunteers are our future - so come learn how to give them the support they need.

Adding Oooomph to Your Meet! – CJ Rushman

Friday 10:45am –11:45am – Moreno A/B

CJ Rushman offers several amazing value added features to bring the excitement to your next swim meet!

Getting Your Fitness Swimmer on and off the Blocks! – Tim Waud and Scott Bay

Friday 1:15pm–2:15pm – Bryan Beeman A/B

Tim Waud and Scott Bay join forces to offer tips, tricks, and motivations to turn fitness swimmers into meet monsters!

Open Water Sanctioning & Long Distance National Championship Bidding – Donn Livoni & Bob Bruce

Friday 1:15pm–2:15pm – Moreno A/B

Learn more about both Open Water Sanctioning and Long Distance National Championship bidding, timelines and how to run a successful National Championship event.

Are Your Volunteers in Jeopardy? – Ray Novitske

Friday 1:15pm–2:15pm – Reverchon A/B

How much do you know about recognizing and acknowledging your volunteers? Test your knowledge in an interactive, audience participation game of *Recognition & Awards Jeopardy* and hopefully take home some new ideas for keeping your volunteers volunteering.



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

**U. S. Masters Swimming
United States Aquatic Sports Annual Convention – Dallas, Texas
September 13-17, 2017**

U.S. Masters Swimming Schedule

Wednesday, September 13th

9:00am 2:00pm	Board of Directors	Cotton Bowl
2:30pm 4:00pm	Investment #1	Pryor-Crockett
2:30pm 4:30pm	BOD Task Force #1	Sanger A
	BOD Task Force #2	Sanger B
4:00pm 5:30pm	Finance #1	Cotton Bowl
5:30pm 6:00pm	Board of Directors	Cotton Bowl
6:00pm 7:00pm	Committee Chairs Orientation	Cockrell
7:00pm 10:00pm	U.S. Aquatic Sports WELCOME RECEPTION	Marsalis A

Thursday, September 14th

5:30am 6:30am	Swim Practice	LISD West Aquatics Center
6:00am 7:00am	Dryland Workout	Marsalis B
7:00am 8:00am	Women In Aquatics Breakfast (separate registration required)	Pegasus A/B
8:30am 9:30am	House of Delegates #1	Reunion G/H
9:45am 10:45am	Open Water	Moreno A/B
	Coaches	Sanger A/B
	Recognition & Awards	Gaston A/B
	Rules #1	Reverchon A/B
	Investment #2	Aerial Queen
11:00am 12:00pm	Long Distance #1	Gaston A/B
	Fitness Education	Moreno A/B
	History & Archives	Aerial Queen
	Legislation #1	Sanger A/B
	Finance #2	Shawnee A/B
12:00pm 1:30pm	Lunch with New Delegates	Parrino's Restaurant
1:30pm 2:30pm	Officials	Sanger A/B
	Sports Medicine & Science	Moreno A/B
	Records & Tabulation	Bryan Beeman B
	Championship #1	Shawnee A/B
	Governance	Pryor-Crockett
	Registration	Baker
2:45pm 5:15pm	House of Delegates #2	Reunion G/H



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

5:30pm 7:00pm

Zone Meetings
Breadbasket Zone
Colonies Zone
Dixie Zone
Great Lakes Zone
Northwest Zone
Oceana Zone
South Central Zone
Southwest Zone

Shawnee Trail A/B
Reunion G/H
Sanger A/B
Aerial Queen
Cumberland E
Windsor
Gaston A/B
Baker

7:00pm 9:00pm

LMSC Social

Dick's Last Resort BBQ

Friday, September 15th

5:30am 6:30am

Swim Practice

LISD West Aquatics Center

6:00am 7:00am

Dryland Workout

Marsalis B

7:00am 8:00am

LGBTQ Affinity Breakfast
(*separate registration required*)

Pegasus A/B

8:00am 9:15am

Long Distance #2
Rules #2
LMSC Development
Audit

Gaston A/B
Shawnee A/B
Sanger A/B
Baker
Cumberland B/C
Bryan Beeman A/B

8:00am 9:30am

Championship #2

9:30am 10:30am

Workshop #1 - *LMSC Standards:
Everything that you wanted to know but
were afraid to ask!*

Workshop #2 - *Do You Have the Meet
Officials You Deserve?*

Workshop #3 - *Tech Crunch for the Swim
World!*

Moreno A/B

Reverchon A/B

Legislation #2

Finance #3

Shawnee A/B

Gaston A/B

Bryan Beeman A/B

10:45am 11:45am

Workshop #4 - *Mentoring vs. Coaching,
Know the Difference*

Workshop #5 - *Adding Oomph to Your
Meet!*

Moreno A/B

Rules #3

Sports Medicine

Shawnee A/B

Reunion G/H

Bryan Beeman A/B

12:00pm 1:00pm

1:15pm 2:15pm

Workshop #6 - *Getting Your Fitness
Swimmer on and off the Blocks!*

Workshop #7 - *Open Water Sanctioning &
Long Distance National Championship
Bidding*

Moreno A/B

Workshop #8 - *Are Your Volunteers in
Jeopardy?*

Reverchon A/B



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

2:30pm 5:30pm
5:35pm 5:50pm
6:00pm 9:00pm

SSL/Foundation
House of Delegates #3
Board of Directors to Approve Budget
International Masters Swimming Hall of
Fame Induction Ceremony
Reception - Cash Bar (6:00-7:00pm)
Induction Ceremony (7:00-9:00pm)
*Complimentary Tickets to USMS House of
Delegates Members*

Windsor
Reunion G/H
Reunion G/H
Landmark A

Saturday, September 16th

6:00am 7:00am

Swim Practice
Dryland Workout
House of Delegates #4
Speed Dating

Southern Methodist University
Marsalis B

8:00am 10:15am
10:30am 11:30am

Leadership Orientation
Round Table Lunch
Rules #4 (from USA S)

Reunion G/H
Reunion G/H
Cockrell
Reunion G/H
Sanger A/B

11:30am 1:00pm
1:00pm 1:30pm

1:30pm 5:30pm
7:00pm 10:00pm

House of Delegates #5
AQUATICS AWARDS BANQUET

Reunion G/H
Landmark B/C/D

Sunday, September 17th

8:00am 9:00am
10:00am 12:00pm

USAS Board of Trustees Meeting
Board of Directors

Moreno A/B
Reunion G/H



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

**U.S. Masters Swimming
House of Delegates Agenda
2017 United States Aquatic Sports Annual Convention – Dallas, Texas**

Thursday, September 14

HOD #1: 8:30-9:30 a.m.

- Welcome and convention overview
- Floor nominations for Officers
- CEO's Update
- Announcements

HOD #2: 2:45 – 5:15 p.m.

- Financial Presentation
- Slate of Candidates and Meet the Candidates

Friday, September 15

HOD #3: 2:30-5:30 pm

- Remembrance
- Elections
- Awards
- Rules/Long Distance/Legislation Forum

Saturday, September 16

HOD #4: 8:00-10:15 a.m.

- Committee Reports

HOD #5: 1:30-5:30 p.m.

- Committee Reports
- Rules
- Long Distance
- Legislation
- Budget Approval
- Feedback Session
- Closing Remarks

USMS Executive Committee Reports

President

Patty Miller

Welcome Delegates to the 2017 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting! I'm looking forward to this gathering as a time when we get to catch up with old friends, meet new people, share ideas, and become energized to further USMS's mission in our LMSCs, clubs, and pools.

There are two themes from this year that I want to amplify. The first is this convention itself. We continue to focus on refining the convention experience and making it as productive and useful as possible. In the past few years, we have provided and expanded on workshops in which delegates can learn and share their ideas about topics that they can bring back to their LMSCs and clubs. This year, you will find nine workshops. I have also heard feedback from delegates about the amount of time spent in House of Delegates sessions discussing motions, amendments, tabling, calling the question, etc. While parliamentary procedure can help keep order, I would prefer that more of our time be spent sharing substantive ideas in workshops, committee meetings and hallways than on the floor of the House of Delegates. Therefore, this year, you will see a few procedural changes suggested by a task force that recommended updates to our convention rules. Also, going forward, knowing that the convention is a large expense in the USMS budget, one of the largest expense in most LMSCs' budgets, and a big commitment of time for our volunteers, we will examine the future function of our annual meeting and the best way to align it with the USMS mission and the needs of our volunteers.

Volunteers are the second theme. USMS continues its transition from a volunteer-governed/volunteer-managed organization, to a volunteer-governed/staff-managed organization. On the Board of Directors, we are carefully conscious about the roles of volunteers and professional staff. The Board sets strategic direction and policy, and CEO Dawson Hughes and the national office staff implement that direction and manage the business of USMS. In doing so, we all operate under the rules and budget approved by the House of Delegates. This year, for example, the Board weighed in on the strategic direction of USMS's information technology infrastructure at Dawson's request. With that direction, the national office has been able to move forward with some key IT initiatives that will increase our ability to reach prospective members and provide better services to existing members.

This year we also held USMS's second LMSC Leadership Summit. This gathering that took place in March and was a great opportunity for LMSC leaders to network, learn about applying the USMS strategic plan in their LMSCs, gather ideas for attracting and retaining volunteers, and get information from their peers about ways to improve LMSC operations for the benefit of USMS members and potential members. Many thanks to the task force chaired by Paige Buehler for making the summit happen.

The focus on volunteers continues. The Futures Task Force, which addresses the future of USMS membership and volunteers, has turned its attention this year to ideas for building USMS's

USMS Executive Committee Reports

younger volunteer base. One of their ideas that you are likely to see at convention is the “star system” that rewards volunteer service *and* turnover.

Beyond these key themes, I also report that it is a good time for USMS representation internationally. USMS is unique as such a large and professionally managed Masters organization this exists independent of the main swimming national governing body. Jay Eckert, from the national office, and I represented USMS at the FINA World Aquatics Convention in December. In July, I attended the FINA Masters Technical Congress in Budapest and was able to meet Master swimming representatives from many countries. As I write, many of our members are participating in the 2017 FINA World Masters Championships in Budapest with 10,000 athletes. And we look forward to 2018 when the Union Americana de Natacion (UANA) Masters Pan-American Championships will be held here in the U.S. in Orlando.

I am excited to see you at the annual meeting in Dallas. I look forward to working with you to promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Vice President of Administration

Ed Tsuzuki

I am very pleased to be concluding 8 years on the USMS Board of Directors at this year's annual meeting. It has been a particularly rewarding experience for me, spending 4 years as Vice President of Local Operations followed by 4 years as Vice President of Administration. I took a look back at my annual reports over the last 8 years and the most conspicuous and important theme in these reports is the passion of our organization's volunteer spirit and the incredible dedication of our capable and enthusiastic staff. I have also been blessed to work with such knowledgeable and hard working committee chairs for almost a decade! I can't thank them enough for their tireless efforts in continuously improving our member experience.

It is hard to believe that this is the 8th annual report I am submitting! Back in 2009, Rob Butcher had just completed his first year as our new Executive Director and Jeff Moxie was elected president. During the next 8 years, I have had the honor of serving under presidents and Ransom J. Arthur Award winners Nadine Day and Patty Miller and have also been able to work very closely with our new CEO, Dawson Hughes. A lot has happened during those 8 years! Just a few of the highlights include the formation of the LMSC Development Committee and LMSC standards. While we had just launched the on-line event rankings (which now have all USMS sanctioned swims since the 2003 SCY season), the End-to-End Event Management task force developed an on-line sanction and calendar request process. We have seen the development and launch of an in-house registration system and also the development of the bi-annual LMSC Leadership Summit. And of course throughout all of this, the standing (annual) work of the committees of the Local Operations and Administration Division continued without missing a beat.

As VP of Administration, I have been extremely fortunate to have such an experienced group of veteran committee chairs who truly work very independently and accomplish so much with their hardworking committees. Jeff Roddin, assisted by Kim Crouch works around the clock in providing USMS members top notch experiences at the spring and summer national championships. The Championship committee strives to improve every event as well as their own internal work processes. Charlie Cockrell, and encyclopedic vice chair Kathy Casey run an incredibly organized Rules Committee as they have jurisdiction over Part 1 of the rulebook and the glossary – weighing in on rules related questions and providing clarification and interpretation of the (part 1) rules. The knowledge base of Charlie, Kathy and the entire committee is simply stunning. Similarly, the Legislation Committee, in considering changes to Parts 2, 4, 5 and 6 of the rulebook, is very thoughtfully and thoroughly led by chair Meg Smath, who is assisted by Richard Garza. For details of each committee's work, please refer to their annual reports and I encourage you to attend some of their meetings at convention.

While I am not running for another leadership position in 2017, I will continue to be an active USMS volunteer and member of the House of Delegates through my role with the New Jersey LMSC and devote a lot of my "USMS spirit" to my role as coach of the Somerset County YMCA Masters swim club. I have been most honored to serve on the USMS leadership team for many years and would like to thank the people who have mentored me, the committee chairs I

USMS Executive Committee Reports

have worked with, and the many volunteers we are so fortunate to have that keep this organization so vibrant and fit.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Vice President of Local Operations

Chris Stevenson

The Local Operations division consists of four committees (Awards & Recognition, History & Archives, LMSC Development, Records & Tabulation). The Vice President of Local Operations, VPLO, is an *ex-officio* member of these four committees and also works with LMSC and Zone chairs on any local issues that might require the attention or advice of a board member. The past year has been a productive one for the four operations committees; their activities are summarized below but annual reports and meeting minutes should be consulted for more detail.

History and Archives, chaired by Barbara Dunbar, continues to do very fine work on their tasks of collecting and preserving the history of the USMS organization. Their projects tend to be multi-year efforts such as finding, digitizing and consolidating paper documents such as older registration files and USMS publications, record and Top 10 chronologies, identifying legacy swimmers with missing registration IDs, and much more. They also generate stories for publication on the USMS web site.

The **LMSC Development Committee**, chaired by Michael Moore, has had another busy year. One major project was to conduct an initial survey of LMSC for compliance with the new mandatory and target standards. Advice and remediation for LMSCs out of compliance were conducted under the supervision of the zone chairs and the VPLO. The committee has organized an excellent series of at least nine peer-to-peer (P2P) teleconferences for different LMSC offices and roles, giving volunteers across the country an opportunity to share ideas and best practices. Notes from most of these sessions have been posted in the “Meeting Minutes” section of the USMS website. The committee also organized a training webinar on running dual-sanctioned meets and is in charge of organizing Convention training workshops. Many members of the committee were heavily involved in running the LMSC Leadership Summit that took place in March. The committee has also been working with the Border, North Texas and South Texas LMSCs on the proposal to change their shared borders.

Recognition and Awards, chaired by Ray Novitske, oversees the national service awards that are so valuable for underlining the very fine efforts of our volunteer base. The committee continued efforts to increase submissions for national awards and were successful for several key awards, receiving a record number of nominations for the June Krauser Communications and the Club of the Year awards. They coordinated the selection of the Ransom J. Arthur Award recipient Michael Moore, who was honored just before Spring Nationals. The committee recommended Walt Reid for IMSHOF induction in the Honor Contributor category; although Walt was not selected this year, the committee plans to resubmit his nomination next year. The committee also writes and submits press releases to recognize award recipients, and has worked towards increasing volunteer recognition at the local (LMSC) level.

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Records and Tabulation, chaired by Jeanne Seidler, continued its excellent supervision of Top 10 lists and USMS Records, as well as the list of measured/certified competition courses. The committee includes the National Swims and the USMS Records Administrators among its members; Mary Beth Windrath currently holds both positions, after Walt Reid stepped down as Records Administrator in January. The committee also continued to formulate, refine, implement and publish policies related to these lists and records. The committee has also taken responsibility of monitoring progress and suggesting improvements on the End-to-End Event Management E2EEM system of sanctioning and results collection and processing.

In addition to acting as liaison for these committees (including serving as the point person for developing LMSC remediation plans) and serving on the Board of Directors and Executive Committees, I was also a member of the **IT Liaison Group** a committee consisting of the four VPs, the IT Director and the CEO. The goal of the group is to help prioritize IT projects and to monitor their progress. The VPs also act as liaisons to their committees who have submitted IT projects, and have advised the CEO during this time of transition to a new model of IT development at the national office.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Vice President of Programs

Chris McGiffin

It is hard to believe that the 2017 USMS Annual Meeting is already upon us. As I close out my second term as VP of USMS Programs, I feel a mixture of melancholy and gratitude. I will miss the company and compassion of those with whom I served, but I end my term feeling enriched by what I have learned along the way. Serving others is my passion, and I am thankful for the opportunity to serve this wonderful organization with you. We are partners and teammates in our journey to serve USMS members, and I want to express my sincere thanks to you. With your contributions at every level of USMS, we are doing better every day to further the mission “to promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming.” Let the steps we take together help to advance that mission and encourage others to discover the fun, fitness and camaraderie of US Masters Swimming. Thank YOU!

The Long Distance Committee - Donn Livoni, Chair; Ali Hall, Vice Chair
Committee calls held - 11/27, 12/27, 1/29, 2/26, 3/26, 4/30, 5/29, 6/25, 7/16

2017 Goals:

1. Increase participation by 10 percent over 2016 in total for postal national championships
2. Identify two LDC members who will collaborate with two different USMS committees for mutual interests
3. Incorporate diversity/inclusivity language into 2019 LDNC bid documents
4. Recruit at least one 2019 festival bid
5. Identify an LDC member to generate a standard entry form (SEF) for use by OWNC hosts and liaisons

Highlights:

- Reviewed Rules & Legislation amendment proposals (~ 41 items, ~ 24 housekeeping)
- The committee supported the BOD submitted changes (for 202.1.1 and 204.1) to remove the waiver requirement for postal event participants
- A cross-committee task force was convened to review/discuss details of the proposed ePostal Modernization changes. The task force consisted of 2 members from both Fitness and Long Distance committees, as well as representatives from the National Office and the BOD. At its 6/25 meeting, the committee entertained a motion to support the task force report and recommendations. The motion failed to pass.

2017 ePostal National Championships:

★ Speedo USMS 1-Hour ePostal Nationals

January 1 – February 28, 2017

Hosted by Ohio Masters Swim Club Event director: Judi Norton

LDC Liaison: James Biles lead; backup: Mike Fanelli & Allison Ware

Stats: Total of 1862 entries (2015 = 2293; 2016 = 2335) YoY decrease of 20%

★ Speedo USMS 5K/10K ePostal Nationals (50 meter pools only)

May 15–September 15, 2017

Hosted by Swim Fort Lauderdale

USMS Executive Committee Reports

LDC Liaison: Greta van Meeteren lead; backup: Phyllis Quinn & Lorena Sims
Stats: TBD

★ Speedo USMS 3000/6000-Yard ePostal Nationals (25 yard or 25 meter pools only)

September 15–November 15, 2017

Hosted by Loveland Masters Swim Club

LDC Liaison: Jim Davidson lead; backup: Josephine Palmerin

Stats: TBD

2017 U.S. Masters Swimming Open Water National Championships

★ USMS Marathon Distance Open Water National Championship (≥ 6 and < 9 Miles) (7 miles)

Swim Around Lido Key, Sarasota, Florida, April 22, 2017

LDC Liaison: James Biles; backup: Allison Ware Safety Director: Steve Butler

National Office/BOD: Rob Copeland

Stats: Total of 140 entries (2015 = 110; 2016 = 63) YoY increase of 122%

★ USMS Middle Distance Open Water National Championship (> 1 and ≤ 3 Miles) (2.4 miles)

Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 3, 2017

LDC Liaison: Ali Hall; backup: Laurie Hug Safety Director: Peggy Grall

National Office/BOD: Rob Copeland

★ USMS Ultra-marathon Distance Open Water National Championship (≥ 9 Miles) (9.2 miles)

Chattanooga, Tennessee, June 4, 2017

LDC Liaison: Ali Hall; backup: Laurie Hug Safety Director: Peggy Grall

National Office/BOD: Rob Copeland

Stats: Total of 98 entries (2015 = 75, 2016 = 53) YoY increase of 85%

★ USMS 2-Mile Cable Open Water National Championship (2 miles)

Foster Lake, Oregon, June 24, 2017

LDC Liaison: Phyllis Quinn; backup: Melinda Grieg-Walker Safety Director: Thomas Landis

National Office/BOD: None

Stats: Total of 77 entries (2015 = 85; 2016 = 213) YoY decrease of 63%

★ USMS Long Distance Open Water National Championship (> 3 and ≤ 6 Miles) (5K)

Elk Lake, Oregon, July 30, 2017

LDC Liaison: Jill Wright; backup: Jim Davidson Safety Director: John Spence

National Office/BOD: None

Stats: TBD

★ USMS Sprint Distance Open Water National Championship (1 mile)

Angle Lake, Washington, September 23, 2017

LDC Liaison: Donn Livoni; backup: Michael Fanelli Safety Director: Jim Davidson

National Office/BOD: Sarah Welch

Stats: TBD

The Officials Committee - Brian Albright, Chair; Teri White, Vice Chair

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Committee calls held - 1/30, 3/28, 5/10, 6/26

Highlights:

- USMS Spring Nationals, Riverside, CA concluded successfully
 - Overall officials coverage went well for the 2 x 9 lane courses, though short-staffed on Friday
- USMS Summer Nationals, Minneapolis, MN - report is pending
- Teri White was selected to officiate at FINA Masters World Championships, Budapest, Hungary
- Committee is formalizing the nomination process for events like FINA Masters Worlds
- Approved a proposal to create a USMS Officials Service Award
- Proposed new committee reimbursement policy for officials that volunteer at USMS national championship meets is being reviewed by Finance. It is intended to replace the current "Stipend Guidelines" document (<http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/ocstipend.pdf>).
- 2017 Convention Officials workshop - Do you have the meet officials you deserve?
 - Do you have trouble finding officials for your Masters meets? Are you always scrambling for officials so that you don't have to cancel the meet? Do you think the officials you have do a good job? This workshop will discuss how you can work with the officials community to staff your meet and how to certify your own officials through the USMS officials certification program.

USMS Officials Certification program

- As of 5/4, there were 50 Stroke & Turn officials certified (26 are also Starter; 12 are current USA Swimming Officials)
- Analysis of prior Officials Survey data indicates that some of the LMSCs that reported problems finding local officials have not yet utilized the new certification program
- Committee is reviewing draft proposal for a path to achieving USMS certification as a Referee

Rule Changes

- The committee has submitted amendments to 103.4, 104.4 and 104.5.10.

USMS Championship Officials

- Committee is working with Championship to discuss options to add nominal fee to help defray or cover lodging costs for volunteer officials
- Goal is to have all N2 level S&T officials on deck
- Also want to discuss how to block rooms for officials at nationals

GTO Officials web page Review

- Committee continues to look at existing documents and making updates as needed

The Open Water Committee - Bob Bruce, Chair; James Kennedy, Vice Chair

Committee calls held - 12/11, 1/22, 3/19, 4/23, 5/21, 6/18, 7/23

USMS Executive Committee Reports

2017 Goal:

- To promote the development of and participation in open water swimming, and to support quality open water swimming experiences for adults in line with the Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategy of USMS. The measurement of this goal will be the quantity of events, swims, & splashes, the quality of those experiences, and other metrics that will help us measure our progress to accomplish these goals.

Highlights:

Nothing additional to report beyond what was submitted from the committee Chair.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Vice President of Community Services

Frank “Skip” Thompson

Coaches Committee (Bob Jennings, Chair; Kenny Brisbin Vice Chair)

Committee Members – New members for 2017 are: Chris McPherson and Laureen Welting. Returning members: Scott Bay, Kenny Brisbin, Chris Campbell, David Clark, Matthew Edde, Dean Hawks, Bob Jennings, Mark Johnston, Andrew Le Vasseur, Jennifer Masquelier, Erin Mathews, Helen Naylor, Kerry O’Brien, Tim Waud, and Steve Weatherman. Ex Officio: Bill Brenner.

Meetings held: 12/12, 2/13, 3/13, 4/10, 5/8, 6/12, and 7/12. Meetings planned: 8/7

2017 Goals and Subcommittee Assignments:

1. National Masters Coaching Summit – USMS National Office and the USMS Coaches Committee are collaborating for this future clinic/summit to be held in the 2018 calendar year. Helen Naylor has been appointed to lead a sub-committee and there will be a discussions and ideas about hosting the clinic. A couple of LMSC’s have been contacted and have shown an interest in hosting the clinic.
2. Coach Certification – Eleven Level 1 - 2 and three Level 3 classes are completed for the first half of 2017. Bill Brenner will be working closely with the committee and providing updates on Levels 1 – 2 and Level 3 Coach Certification Classes throughout the remainder of 2017. Scott Bay will have results of the coach certification subcommittee groups: 1. Evaluating Level 4 applications, 2. Revising Level 4 applications, and 3. Possibility of creating a new level of Coaching Certification.
3. USMS High Performance Camp – This camp is a joint venture from the Triangle Sports Commission, the Greensboro Aquatic Center, and USMS. The tentative dates for the camp are 8-25-17 to 8-30-17 at the Greensboro Aquatic Center. Bob Jennings, Chris Campbell, and Steve Weatherman will be involved in the camp as a subcommittee and the committee will help in the search of coaches to work the camp. Steve Weatherman has been named the Head Coach of the HPC for 2017. Chris Campbell will be the Head Coach in 2018. Jacki Hirsty, Bill Meir, and Trey Taylor will be the other coaches for the 2017 camp.
4. LMSC Communications – Kenny Brisbin is the lead on this topic and he and Tim Waud will be surveying the needs of LMSC Coaches Chairs and sending out minutes of the USMS Coaches Committee meetings.
5. Open Water – Charlotte Brynn is assigned to be the online open water coach to post workouts on the open water forum. Mark Johnston participated recently in an Open Water teleconference and that committee is interested in becoming involved in the open water component of the coaching certification process. Mark would like to reach out to Triathlon and Open Water coaches and provide a resource guide for them. The Open Water and Long Distance Committee will be consulted for input and feedback during this process.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

6. On Deck Coaching – Erin Mathews has done an outstanding job in the past and will continue to lead this project and be responsible for setting everything up and coordinating this through Sign Up Genius at both USMS National Championship meets and with the USAS Convention in Dallas in September 2017. USMS just completed need a successful year of on deck coaching at both the spring and summer USMS Nationals.
7. Awards – Chris Campbell continues to lead this subcommittee and is a member of the USMS Recognition and Awards Committee. He will be assisted by David Clark, Kerry O'Brien, and Andrew Le Vasseur. We need to encourage individuals, coaches, and LMSC Boards to go to the Awards section of the USMS website and review the awards and their nomination process. We need to encourage more nominations this year. As of July 1, 2017 which is the deadline, the Awards Committee has 4 nominations for the USMS Coach of the Year and 7 nominations for the Kerry O'Brien Grassroots Coaching Award. Award winners will be announced at the 2017 USAS Convention in Dallas.
8. Publications – Chris McPherson will lead this subcommittee and has received 3 articles and one has been published in Streamlines in March 2017 issue. Coaches will submit favorite workouts, drills, and ideas that are successful in the USMS Coaching community. Chris has reached out to the USMS National Office and is working with Laura Hamel on a process to follow.
9. Web Workouts – Erin Mathews leads this subcommittee with assistance from Mark Johnston. The workouts have up and running on the USMS site for 6 months and have been successful since the beginning of January. There are eight different categories (5 workouts a week) which try to cover all demographics of USMS swimmers. Coaches are paid a stipend and can write workouts in one category for two years. There are no new coaches writing the workouts for 2017. In the future, a list of the coaches will be sent to Bob Jennings. In August 2017, the Coaches Committee will advertising for new coaches to write the 2018 workouts. A suggestion was to recruit individuals about being replacement coaches for the next year and the current coaches could act as mentors.
10. International Coaching – The 2017 FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary are scheduled from August 7 – 20, 2017 and the entry deadline closed this week. USMS has 180 athletes registered with the event being close to 10,000 athletes. Coaches have already been selected and Richard Garza has been appointed the Head Coach for USMS during this meet. The Assistant Coaches are Kata Rutherford, Martin Wagner, and Janelle Higashida. Newsletters and a dedicated facebook page have been created to help USMS swimmers attending the meet with logistics about the meet and social events planned.
11. ASCA World Clinic – Dates are August 31 – September 2, 2017 in Washington DC. USMS is scheduled to have a booth for the 2017 World Clinic Trade Show. The dedicated Masters Track at ASCA is not scheduled for 2017.

Sports Medicine Committee (Megan Carlson, Chair; Sally Berry, Vice Chair)

Committee Members – New members for 2017 are: Connor Bailey, Jim Izzi, and Eduard Tiozzo. Returning members: Sally Berry, Megan Carlson, Sally Guthrie, Jane Katz, Dr. Jim Miller MD, Jane Moore, Clare Rudd, Jessica Seaton, and Robin Tracy. Ex Officio: Laura Hamel.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Meetings held: 1/22, 3/5 and 5/21. Meeting Planned: 7/16

2017 Goals and Subcommittee Assignments:

1. USAS Convention Presentation – Results from a USMS health survey done several years ago that was in 4 publications of scientific/sport journals will be presented with comments of the survey from respondents.
2. Sports Medicine Blog – In the past year, a non-interactive Sports Medicine Committee directed Blog to dispense sports medicine related articles and studies have proven successful. Jessica Seaton is highly involved with the blog, posting a variety of topics related to swimming, health and nutrition. The blog is updated regularly with a focus on current topics in research and the media.
3. Public Service Announcement – David Samuelson had partnered with Sports Medicine to develop a public service announcement related to the benefits of masters swimming and the importance of preventative heart care. The desire was to have a more diverse representation of ages and background and the SMC sent information and suggestions to Samuelson to incorporate this into the PSA. After multiple attempts to comprise the PSA message about the requirement about annual exams, the consensus of the SMC was the PSA content (cardiac message) does not comply with the what is the best practice as it relates to USMS and therefore the SMC is not in support of continuing with the PSA and communication has been sent and the project has been canceled.
4. Nationals Informational Booth – Sally Berry leads this project. There was no informational booth at Spring Nationals at Riverside, CA. Jasmine Hanson, an EMT, DC and ME student, and swim coach is doing a masters thesis project on kinesiology tapings effect on rounded shoulder posture and shoulder pain. A booth at Summer Nationals in Minneapolis would be set up for the research and swimmers would be tested at the warm up pool. Details are still being worked out and swimmers would be informed that taping could not be used for competition during the meet because it's against USMS rules and they could get disqualified. That will be communicated to all swimmers that are tested.
5. The SMC is looking at ideas of the launch of a comprehensive report on the health benefits of swimming that Swim England commissioned. Swim England is the NGB for swimming in England and is separate from British Swimming, which has more of a competitive elite focus. The NGB goal is providing and publicizing the benefits of swimming to further its mission focusing on learn to swim, enjoying water safety, and competing in aquatic sports. Create programs that enable everyone to be active, have fun, and stay healthy.
6. Shallow Water Blackout Video – A you tube video by Coach Bob Bowman about the dangers of underwater swimming is going to be reviewed by the SMC for recommendations to the Coaches Committee for future use in clinics and coach certification classes.

Fitness Education Committee (Mary Jurey, Chair; Brian Cummings, Vice Chair)

Committee Members – New members for 2016 are: Ruth Carter, Kelly Davis, Ina King, and Ann Marshfield. Returning members: Andrea (AJ) Block, Stacy Broncucia, Brigit Bunch, Anita Cole,

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Karen Gernert, Fares Ksebati, Lisa Ward, Lisa Watson, Karin Wegner and Ken Winterberger. Ex Officio: Kyle Deery.

Meetings held: 1/22 and 6/27.

Several USMS National Office initiatives for the 2017 year have been started for which Fitness Committee input would be helpful and items already in progress from 2016 have already been incorporated to help with this strategy. An overview of a strategy for a fitness initiative has been defined and Fitness Committee members have been invited to participate in 4 sub-groups and these will be used as resources as research and development starts and proceeds for the program throughout the 2017 year. The 4 sub-groups are defined below:

1. Fitness Initiative - A group to serve as a sounding board on the research and development that we are undertaking over the next 6-8 months.
2. (Fitness) Events - A group to look at our electronic Postals, GTD, Check-off-Challenge events and determine which should be looked at as 'fitness' vs. 'long distance'. For fitness events that are underperforming from a participation standpoint, and whether we should continue them as programs with adjustments to improve participation. With the knowledge gained this could be a group that researches and recommends new fitness oriented programs (i.e. 30 minute swim).
3. Fitness Swimming Technology - (e.g. FLOGS, Virtual Swims, mobile applications, etc.) - What do our members want? What is attractive to a prospective member that doesn't plan on competing?
4. Fitness Research/Education/Marketing- Research and provide recommendation fitness related content and marketing. How can we condense the benefits of swimming exclusively for fitness (i.e. not competitive) in simple messaging? Possibly include a sports medicine committee liaison with this group to provide technical/medical input. Example: Orange Theory<<https://www.orangetheoryfitness.com/>> is franchise interval fitness training program that is expanding rapidly. From their website: 'Backed by Science: Our heart-rate monitored, high-intensity workout is scientifically designed to keep heart rates in a target zone that spikes metabolism and increases energy. We call it the afterburn'. In conjunction with Sports Medicine expertise, can we develop this type of messaging to support the benefits of swimming in USMS programs.

2017 Ongoing Projects and Assignments:

1. An E-Postal Modernization Task Force was set up and included 2 fitness committee members. The Fitness Committee approved to create and start a Winter, Summer, and Fall Fitness Challenge swims to encourage participation from fitness swimmers at the 6-27-17 committee meeting based on the recommendations of the task force. The challenges include a 30 minute swim for the winter, 2K swim for the summer, and a 1 mile swim for the fall. These events will be pre-registered before the swim and the participation window to enter and complete the event is 14 days and the events will be run by the USMS National Office. These events will have a fundraising component, with the majority of the registration fees going to the Swimming Saves Lives foundation or a local charity. These events will start in 2018 with the Winter Fitness Challenge.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

2. Go The Distance Program – Successful and gaining popularity year after year. In 2016, over 3300 participants and this is a good event to attract Fitness swimmers and can be a model for other types of fitness events.
3. Check Off Challenge – The event is up and running and hosted by the Flow Swimmers Club (Flathead Lake Open Water Swimmers) in Montana and coaches committee member, Mark Johnston is the event director. As a coaches and swimmers incentive, for every 5 swimmers a Club enters, they get 5 t-shirts plus one extra at no charge. A discussion about how to improve participation in this event with ideas of recording swimmers who participated in the event and having results posted on the USMS website. Ideas were split on recording of times in the specific events. A host could keep score by Club like the 1 Hour Swim but the question is would you score by time, by age-group, or by participation. Currently the \$30 fee entry fee includes a custom-designed check-off challenge t-shirt, swim cap, and a certificate of completion. This will be the last year of this event.
4. LMSC Communication with LMSC Fitness Chairs on ideas that are being done with success at the LMSC level.
How to better effectively communicate fitness activities out to the LMSC and swimmer level. Improve on communicating fitness updates to the National Office and Fitness Chairs. Work to more effectively communicate with Coaches and the Coaches committee.
5. Fitness Committee Blog – In the past year, a non-interactive Sports Medicine Committee directed Blog to distribute sports medicine related articles and studies as proven successful. A possibility that has been discussed is creating a Fitness blog, where it would be live on the USMS forum and fitness committee members could contribute with articles, ideas, and studies that are going on in the fitness community.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Secretary

Chris Colburn

Four years goes by quickly, especially when much has been accomplished and we have the chance to look back. I am grateful to so many volunteers, staff, and athletes who have made my two terms as Secretary memorable, and who have made a sometimes challenging job well worth the benefits to our membership.

As for the business of the role, this year has proceeded like many others. I have recorded meeting and conference call minutes for the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee, and posted the approved documents on the website. I also worked with committee chairs to ensure that their meeting minutes were posted as received. I have communicated with the National Office to ensure that Convention and Board Meeting materials were prepared as needed for our meetings throughout the year. Finally, I have executed documents as requested by the business in my role as corporate Secretary.

As my time in the role of Secretary draws to a close, I would like to thank the Executive Committee, Board of Directors, and Committee Chairs for their hard work and assistance this year. To the National Office staff both past and present, I offer my heartfelt gratitude for your continued support and friendship. To my successor, it is my hope that your term in office is as positive an experience as mine has been, and that the evolving role of USMS Secretary brings you as much satisfaction as it has to me.

This organization has enormous potential, and it is my continued hope that we take every opportunity to realize that potential. With a new Board in place and a National Office staff who is up to the challenge, we will be well positioned to lead U.S. Masters Swimming into a bright future.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer

Ralph Davis

Financial condition: Our financial condition as of June 30, 2017 is very healthy with reserves in excess of \$3.8M

There are three major reasons for this unprecedented health:

- USMS is well managed in a fiscally conservative manner.
- Investment portfolio (as of 7/31/17) has grown \$219,434 for 2017 and \$877,066 since its inception in February, 2011.
- We are in the third year of our dues increase program that was adopted to invest in programs and services under a secure financial foundation.

Our financial health gives USMS the resources to support our Mission and maintain USMS as the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the United States and make fitness through swimming available for as many adults as possible.

Our Audit, Finance and Investment Committees continue to play significant roles in assisting the board with its fiduciary responsibilities. We have much to thank these volunteers for as their oversight of our assets contributes greatly to our organization's outstanding financial condition. Our independent accounting firm conducts an annual audit, provides a management review letter and makes an annual presentation to the Board of Directors. I am pleased to report that for the eighth year in a row there were no reported deficiencies by our auditor. Both are a direct reflection on our Chief Financial Officer, Susan Kuhlman.

The 2016 Financial Statements are complete and the certified audited financial report will be available on our website by the end of August. Our audit firm is Kerkerling, Barberios & Co. of Sarasota, Florida. The USMS tax return for 2016 is completed and approved by the Board and will be filed with the IRS by August 15th.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Immediate Past President

Nadine Day

As immediate past president, I serve to assist the current President when needed. I am a voting member of the Executive committee and the Board of Directors.

I am serving as the president's liaison on the Diversity task force. The Diversity task force, which is chaired by Sarah Welch, presented the task force's mission, vision, core objective and strategic recommendations to the BOD. The BOD approved the plan during this Summer BOD. The task force mission: Create a culture of inclusion and opportunity for people of diverse backgrounds in support of the USMS Mission: To promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming.

As a member of USMS, I serve on the Swimming Saves Lives committee and the Recognition and Awards committee. I was honored to receive the Capt. Ransom J Arthur Award last year. Next year, I will be chairing the RJA subcommittee. I will continue to support recognizing individuals in our organization.

In 2016, I was appointed as the Athlete member of the UANA Masters Technical Committee. We have been very active this year. I have assisted with the bid applications, recognition and participation certificates and reviewing the current Pan Am Masters booklet.

The USA will host the UANA Pan American Masters Championships in Orlando, FL. The tentative dates for Swimming July 28-August 3, and Open Water on 8/4/18. In 2020, Medellin, Colombia will host the Pan Am Masters Championships; dates TBA.

I was able to chair the UANA Masters Swim Clinic subcommittee and created a bid application for developing Federations to host swim and coaches clinics.

The Cayman Islands hosted the first UANA Open Water Cup event for Masters this past June. This event was in conjunction with the Cayman Island "Flower Swim" event and the first time elite and Masters participated in the same open water championships. The event took place over 4 days-a relay event, masters 2.5K swim, masters 5K swim and the Flower Swim 1 mile event were held.

Next year In June, UANA Masters America's Cup Open Water Championships will be held in the Cayman Islands.

I am also assisting with the UANA Crowdfunding, which we had our initial fundraising efforts for the Haitian National Team. During Hurricane Matthew, 3 coaches and 2 athletes lost all their possessions and homes. The current fundraising effort is with NICA Nadadores sponsoring swimmers and learning to swim programs. NICA Nadadores was started by three USA college swimmers, who built a 25-meter pool with concrete blocks. They are promoting education and leadership through swimming.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

I am very blessed to be able to provide opportunities for others to participate in aquatics. I will continue to recognize and support these efforts in fulfilling the USMS mission to promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Legal Counsel

Maria Elias-Williams

In my second year as USMS' Legal Counsel, I continue to be most impressed by the dedication of staff and volunteers who explore all aspects of issues within their given task.

We pro-actively address and try to balance the rights and needs of all members, seeking input from our entire swim community. We also continue to build upon the guidelines to minimize any potential threats to our tax-exempt status. I have frequent telephone conferences with staff, Board members and other volunteers, as well as occasional outside counsel, to keep issues that arise at low risk. I have also reviewed numerous contracts during this past year. USMS has not been named in any lawsuit during my tenure, although we maintain continual contact with our liability provider for advice and direction to deter such.

SEGMENTS OF MEMBERS



ENHANCED BENEFITS FOR ALL MEMBERS



CLUB AND EVENT SUPPORT



External

Engage and activate partnerships with organizations that align with USMS's mission, vision and values, for the purpose of increasing benefits to our members, enhancing and expanding the USMS brand, and improving access to swimming facilities.

PARTNERS AND SPONSORS



FORMALIZING OTHER RELATIONSHIPS

College Club Swimming and Triathlon organizations

MEMBERSHIP VALUE

Enhance and customize value and deliver it to consumer segments based on needs and interests.

WORD OF MOUTH



BRAND AWARENESS

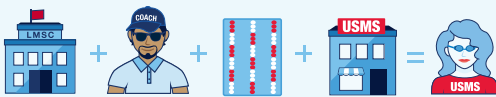
81%

of actively swimming adults don't know or know little about USMS



PARTNERSHIPS

STRONG PARTNERSHIPS



POSITIVE VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE



Internal

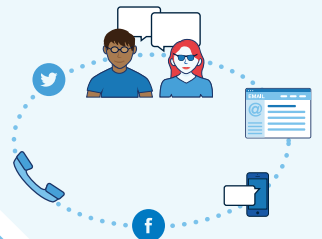
Enhance the partnership between volunteers, coaches, and the National Office with the shared focus on providing the best membership experience possible.

INNOVATION

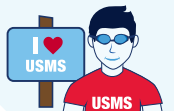
Transform USMS offerings to align with the changing environment.



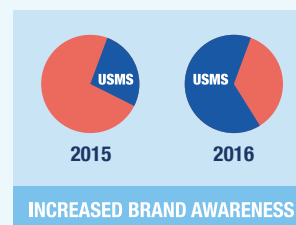
CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION ACROSS ALL CHANNELS



BRAND AFFINITY



METRICS TO SHOW IMPROVEMENTS



Championship

Committee Members

Jeff Roddin, Chair; Kim Crouch, Vice Chair

Jim Clemmons, Barry Fasbender, Don Gilchrist, Mark Moore, Erin Moro, Sandi Rousseau, Ed Saltzman, Jody Smith, Jeff Strahota, Pete Tarnapoll, Natalie Taylor, Charlie Tupitza, Jillian Wilkins, Paul Windrath.

Ex-Officio: Kyle Deery, Jay Eckert, Casey Keiber, Donn Livoni, Ed Tsuzuki.

Introduction

Our mission is to serve in an advisory capacity to national championship hosts and make recommendations and decisions that enhance the quality of championship meets for all registered U.S. Masters Swimming members; to actively solicit and receive bid proposals, review bids and select the sites for national championship meets; and support marketing opportunities for U.S. Masters Swimming Corporate Partners.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Request to suspend 104.1.1 for 2018 USMS Summer Nationals was approved by the Rules Committee and Board of Directors
2. Established Local and Regional Club classifications for 2017 USMS clubs
3. Updated Meet Director's Guide for 2017 hosts
4. Helped with transition to using Club Assistant to process entries for Nationals (individual + relays)
5. Drafted suggested site visit agenda for upcoming hosts when they attend the preceding Nationals
6. Submitted two proposed Rules changes to Article 104
7. Produced NQT Standards file for meet operations use at 2017 Nationals and made available to local meet directors
8. Evaluated deck seeding vs pre-seeding 200s at Nationals
9. Discussed pros and cons to running 2018 Spring Nationals SCM vs SCY (opted for SCY)
10. Researched LMSC registration trends leading up to and after hosting Nationals
11. Discussed feasibility of offering a "Coaches Registration" at Nationals
12. Increased awareness to swimmers, officials and hosts about Strobe availability for starts at Nationals - added details to meet info, pre-event emails and officials briefing agendas
13. Reviewed Safety Marshall coverage at Nationals
14. Expanded merchandise pre-meet sale options to hosts
15. Reviewed hospitality guidelines to address food allergies
16. Discussed changes to meet contract activities (e.g. content, signing closer to being awarded the bid, having the National Office oversee execution)

Action Items

1. 2018 Spring Nationals: sign contract, assign Order of Events, approve meet logo and awards, update Meet Director's Guide
2. Contracts for 2019/2020 Nationals
3. Recruit/solicit bids for 2020 Spring Nationals
4. Update Championship Committee Policy documents
5. Assign future liaisons

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

6. Evaluate liability waiver requirements onsite at the meet
7. Review pool ladder requirements for competition courses

Agenda

Thursday (1:30-2:30pm, Shawnee A/B)

1. Approve Minutes from last meeting(s) as required.
2. Recap/debrief 2017 Nationals
 - A. Spring (Riverside)
 - B. Summer (Minnesota)
3. Review/discuss 2018 Nationals
 - A. 2018 Spring Nationals (Indy, May 10-13)
 - a. Logo/Awards
 - b. Order of Events
 - B. Pan Ams (Orlando, July 28 - August 3)
4. Review/discuss any proposed Legislation/Rules changes that affect Championship Committee (Articles 103/104)
5. NQT's

Friday (8:00-9:30am, Cumberland B)

1. 2019/2020 National Championship Bids
 - A. Bid summary
 - B. Selections
 - C. Announcement/Press Release Coordination
2. Nationals procedures/activities:
 - A. Relay Entries
 - B. Facilities
 - a. Portable strobes
 - b. Track start blocks
 - c. Backstroke ledges
 - d. Competition pool ladders
 - C. Coaches
 - a. Meet registration
 - b. Hospitality policy
 - D. LMSC Registration trends
 - E. Seeding for 200s
 - F. Liability waiver
 - G. "Salmon run" sprint lanes
 - H. General Meeting
 - I. Meet Contracts
 - a. Safety Marshals
 - b. Officials
 - c. Pre-event merchandise
 - d. National Office role
3. Goals/Tasks for 2018
 - A. Potential Rules Proposals
 - B. USMS 50th Anniversary/2020 Nationals

Coaches

Committee Members

Bob Jennings, Chair; Kenny Brisbin, Vice Chair

Scott Bay, Chris Campbell, David Clark, Matthew Edde, Dean Hawks, Mark Johnston, Andrew LeVasseur, Jennifer Masquelier, Erin Mathews, Crystie McGrail, Chris McPherson, Helen Naylor, Kerry O'Brien, Tim Waud, Steve Weatherman, Lauren Welting[

Ex-Officio: Bill Brenner, Skip Thompson

Introduction

The Coaches Committee continued to provide safety and educational opportunities for swimmers and coaches through their work with the National Office, High Performance Camp, the National Coaching Clinic, Web Workouts, On Line Coaching and Nationals

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. FINA World Championships in Budapest, Hungary - Mark Johnston led the subcommittee search for coaches. Richard Garza was selected head coach along with Kata Rutherford, Martin Wagner, and Janelle Higashida as assistant coaches. The coaches did an outstanding job in preparing swimmers for the meet and at the meet.
2. High Performance Camp – Greensboro, North Carolina, August 27 to 31. Steve Weatherman from the Coaches Committee was the head coach. 19 swimmers ranging in age from 26 to 77 signed up.
3. National Coaching Clinic for 2018 – Preliminary work has begun in preparation for the clinic. As of now the clinic will be held in the Washington DC suburbs.
4. Certification/Coaches Education – Coaches Certification for Levels 1, 2, and 3 as well as the Coaching clinics were very successful this year. The Level 4 application was revised. The subcommittee working with Level 4 applications spent many hours evaluating the applications and helping applicants through the process. New Level 4 coaches were announced at Spring Nationals and more will be announce at convention.
5. Awards – A subcommittee of five reviewed the Coach of the Year and Kerry O'Brien Award nominations. There were seven nominations for Coach of the Year.
6. Communications – Committee meeting minutes have been sent out to LMSC Coaches Chairs. A survey to help meet the needs of LMSC Coaches Chairs and certified coaches is being developed. Bob Jennings led a Peer-to-Peer conference call on Coaches Best Practices. Several coaches from the committee participated in the call.
7. 2018 Pan Am Games – Discussions were held on the roll of the Coaches Committee for the Games.
8. Online Coaching – The selection of Online Coaches was completed on time and the workouts continue to be available on the USMS website.
9. On Deck Coaching – Sign Up Genius was used again as our method for coaches to sign up for warm up sessions at Spring and Summer Nationals. Discussions were held on ways to improve warm ups at these meets. Sign Up Genius was also used for coaches to sign up for morning workouts at convention.
10. Publications – Chris McPherson worked with individuals that submitted articles to be published.

11. Shallow Water Black Outs. – There were major discussions about shallow water blackouts. A four-minute video featuring Bob Bowman discussing the topic was sent out to all committee members and they were encouraged to watch it and then share it with their swimmers.

Action Items

1. Work with the Fitness committee and Dawson on developing workouts to prepare fitness swimmer to complete 2k, 1k, or half hour fitness swims
2. Continue to plan for the 2018 National Coaches Clinic.
3. Continue to provide Web Workouts and on deck coaching for warm ups at Spring & Summer Nationals as well as the Pan Am Games.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Safety thoughts for meets and practices
3. Review of 2016
4. Goals for 2017/18
5. Subcommittee Summaries (Awards, Certification, High Performance Camp, LMSC Communications, 2018 National Coaching Clinic, On Deck Coaching and Web Workouts, Open Water, and Publications)

Election

Committee Members

Cheryl Gettelfinger, Chair; Erin Sullivan, Vice-Chair

Susan Ehringer, Nancy Ridout, Jim Clemmons and Leianne Crittenden

Directions and Projects

1. Revise the EOG to make them more current. Completed and approved on 7/15/17.
2. Announce, accept and slate Candidates for both the initial nomination and the extended (for V.P. Administration only) nomination periods. Completed on 5/7/17 and 6/4/17 respectively.
3. Prepare candidate packets for the both the elections and convention pages of the USMS website. Completed 7/26/17.
4. Sample some electronic voting websites and make plans to begin transformation into electronic voting at some future point.
5. Prepare for the applicable HOD meetings which are tentatively: 1-3 for announcements and floor nominations (1), Meet-the-Candidate (2), and voting (3).
6. Prepare ballots and other materials necessary for the convention.

Action Items

The committee is finalizing the outlines for the first two HOD meetings so that we can work efficiently. In addition, the committee is finalizing the ballots.

The committee will have a closed meeting on Thursday between HOD 1 and HOD 2 in order to discuss our presentations/duties at the HOD #2 and HOD #3 meetings.

Agenda

1. The committee also has a goal of making a brief presentation re: electronic voting.

History and Archives

Committee Members

Barbara Dunbar, Chair; Meegan Wilson, Vice Chair

Maryanne Barkley, John Bauman, Marcia Benjamin, Alan Bernard, Richard Burns, Betsy Durrant, Margie Huting, Anna Lea Matysek, Gail Roper, Jayne Saint-Amour

Ex-Officio: Christopher Stevenson

Introduction

The History and Archives Committee records, collects, and preserves documents, stories, photos, exhibits, oral histories, and other memorabilia in an appropriate repository and in durable formats to ensure that the achievements of USMS and Masters swimmers will be maintained for posterity. The archived information shall be made available. The committee consists of the committee chair and sufficient members to execute the committee function.

Thank you to the History and Archives Committee members for all efforts and accomplishments since last convention and for working many, many volunteer hours.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. **Top 10 Publication (Lists, Booklets, and Errata) Project**

The project to scan, OCR convert, and post all Masters Top 10 lists, booklets, publications, and errata is nearly completed. All lists and booklets and most errata documents have been located, scanned, and OCR converted by Meegan and Barbara. Anna Lea posted many onto the USMS website earlier this year at <http://www.usms.org/content/top10print>. By year end, the goal is to upload the remaining Top 10 lists and errata, to locate missing errata as well as clearer copies of some documents already posted, and to post any remaining Top 10 documents.

2. **SWIM-MASTER Project**

The project to scan, OCR convert, and post all 181 *Swim-Masters* covering the period from December 1991 through December 1991 has been completed. *Swim-Master* was the original Masters swimming publication and was published by June Krauser. The main committee members involved with this massive, labor-intensive project were Meegan, Barbara, and Anna Lea. Links to the 181 *Swim-Master* documents can be found at <http://www.usms.org/content/swimmer>.

3. **SWIM-MASTER Index Project**

Meegan has created an index for all 181 *Swim-Masters* to enhance content searches. The indexes were submitted in late July for addition to the page containing the links to all of the scanned *Swim-Masters*.

4. **USMS National Record Chronology Project**

Committee members are making progress locating missing National Record chronology dates. Committee members and USMS members are now able to search the recently posted *Swim-Masters* for missing National Record dates.

5. **Relay Top 10 (On-line Posting) Project**

Pre-1994 Relay Top 10 lists are being converted for upload into the USMS Top 10 database. Mary Beth Windrath uploaded the 1988 SCY Relay TT file to the USMS

database on July 27. Both Walt Reid and Mary Beth have been working to add swimmer IDs and to re-format the data for proper upload.

6. **Olympians who are USMS Members Project**

Additional Olympians have been added to the USMS Member Olympian list at <http://www.usms.org/hist/oly/>.

7. **Deceased Member Project**

The USMS registration database continues to be updated as more deceased members are identified and dates of death are located.

8. **Other H&A Projects**

Additional projects are ongoing and include the following: locating and scanning other USMS documents; locating and scanning Open Water and Long Distance National Championship results; locating swimmers on the USMS 1970-1992 Top 10 lists who have not been assigned IDs; identifying swimmers with duplicate IDs; converting old registration hardcopy data into digital format; proofing swimmer stories; fact-checking, and completing special research requests.

Action Items

1. Reevaluate and prioritize various History and Archives committee projects.

Agenda

1. Call History and Archives Meeting to Order, Thursday, September 14, 2017, 11:00am- 12:00 pm.
2. Roll Call – Barbara Dunbar (Chair), Meegan Wilson (Vice Chair), Maryanne Barkley, John Bauman, Marcia Benjamin, Alan Bernard, Richard Burns, Betsy Durrant, Margie Huting, Anna Lea Matysek, Gail Roper, Jayne Saint-Amour
Ex Officio: Christopher Stevenson (EC, VPLO).
3. Introduce and welcome new delegates.
4. Review the status of the primary History and Archives projects.
5. Action Item – Reevaluate and prioritize History and Archives projects.
6. Discuss communications, workloads, web projects, and timelines.
7. Special thanks to Anna Lea Matysek, Tracy Grilli, and Jim Matysek for all of the help and services that they have provided to the History and Archives committee, to other committees, and to volunteers in general over the years.
8. Other
9. Adjourn

Fitness Education

Committee Members

Mary Jurey, Chair; Brian Cummings, Vice Chair

Ruth Carter, Kelly Davis, Ina King, Ann Marshfield, Karen Gernert, Karen Wegner, Brigid Bunch, Anita Cole, AJ Block, Stacy Broncucia, Fares Ksebati, Lisa Ward, Ken Winterberger

Ex-Officio: Skip Thompson [EC], Kyle Deery, Casey Keiber

Introduction

The Fitness Committee began the year by creating four subcommittees focused on the following:

1. Fitness Initiative – A group to serve as a sounding board on the research and development of a fitness exercise program that the National Office undertook in 2017 (and is ongoing)
2. (Fitness) Events – Review ePostals, GTD, Check-off-Challenge events and determine which should be looked at as ‘fitness’ vs. ‘long distance’. Evaluate under-performing fitness events and determine whether we should continue them with adjustments to improve participation, or eliminate for alternative events. With the knowledge gained this could be a group that researches and recommends new fitness oriented programs or events (i.e. 30-minute swim – is that the right approach?).
3. Fitness Swimming Technology – (e.g. FLOGS, Virtual Swims, app, wearables, etc.) – What do our members want? What is attractive to a prospective member that doesn’t plan on competing?
4. Fitness Research/Education/Marketing- Research and provide recommendations on fitness related content and marketing. How can we condense the benefits of swimming exclusively for fitness (i.e. not competitive) in simple messaging? Possibly include a sports medicine committee liaison with this group to provide technical/medical input.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Fitness Initiative – The National Office kept the committee (and sub-committee) updated on progress in their research and development of Fitness Programming. The sub-committee was invited to Austin for testing in May, along with other swimmers from the South Texas LMSC. Feedback on the program was provided. Development is still underway and we will continue to work together with the National Office as the initiative proceeds.
2. Fitness Events – The Fitness Committee has discussed a 30-minute swim option for several years. This concept was combined with discussion on the ePostals and ultimately led to a thorough proposal to ‘modernize’ the ePostals and combine with shorter distances/times along with a non-competitive division for fitness-minded swimmers. This proposal was evaluated by the Long-Distance Committee and the Fitness Committee and both agreed to a joint task force to review the finer details. The Task Force met and revised the proposal and re-presented to both Long Distance and Fitness. Although the Long-Distance Committee ultimately decided not to adopt the proposal, the Fitness Committee plans to move forward with a new USMS Fitness Series as follows. Final planning is culminating at Convention and these events will be announced in the fall of ’17 and implemented in 2018. Although the general structure of these events is like the

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ePostals, in that they will be take place in home pools with clubs/coaches administering the event (or an individual participating independently), the focus will be entirely on fitness, fun and fundraising. The subcommittee is continuing work to finalize details and has adopted a liaison from the Swimming Saves Lives Board of Trustees (Bill Meier) to work on the fundraising components. Below is a brief overview and please keep an eye out for more information from the Fitness Committee and the National Office in the coming weeks and months.

U.S. Masters Swimming Fitness Series			
Series Name	Fitness Distance / Duration		Participation Window
Winter Fitness Challenge	30 minute		last 2 weeks of Feb.
Fees	Fitness - \$10 until Feb 1 (\$12after)		
Profits	National Office hosts and administers 2018 and beyond: 100% of proceeds to go to SSLF		
Summer Fitness Challenge	2K (meters) conversion from yards allowed		last 2 weeks of Jul.
Fees	Fitness - \$10 until July 1 (\$12 after)		
Profits	2018 and beyond: 100% of registration proceeds go to SSLF & other fundraising components are possible (Driven by LMSC or Club)		
Fall Fitness Challenge	1 mile (1650yds) conversion from meters allowed		last 2 weeks of Nov.

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Fees	Fitness - \$10 until Nov 1 (\$12 after)		
Profits	2018 and beyond: 100% of registration proceeds go to SSLF & other fundraising components are possible (Driven by LMSC or Club)		

3. The Fitness Committee also decided that the interest and participation levels in the Check-Off-Challenge do not support continuing the event. This event will be eliminated in 2018 as we focus on the Fitness Series.
4. Technology – Although the committee has not progressed much on this front, we continue to be updated by the National Office on their discussions with potential Fitness App partners and integration.
5. Discussion continues effectively marketing to the ‘fitness swimmer’ and provide more content on the health benefits of swimming as a fitness option. We plan to utilize the Fitness Series as focal point of these efforts with support from the National Office marketing department.

Action Items

1. Finalize Details for Fitness Series and begin promotion.
2. Provide feedback and input on the National Office’s progress on fitness-focused programming.
3. Continue to evaluate technology options for the fitness swimmer
4. Individually champion a Fitness Series event with our Club and/or LMSC in 2018 and encourage all other volunteers to do the same.

Agenda

1. Review progress on Fitness Series, finalize remaining details on ground rules, registration and fundraising.
2. Developing best practices for Fitness Series events
3. Update from National Office on Fitness Program Development and technology related items.

Legislation

Committee Members

Meg Smath, Chair; Richard Garza, Vice Chair

Wyatt Bradbury, Joan Campbell, Rob Copeland, Sean Fitzgerald, Heather Hagadorn, Michael Heather, Nikki Merson, Jane Moore, Teddy Palmer, Steve Peterson, Heather Stevenson, Erin Sullivan, Patrick Weiss, Kris Wingenroth

Ex-Officio: Charles Cockrell, Maria Elias-Williams, Bill Brenner

Introduction

This committee considers amendments to Parts 2, 4, 5, and 6 of the rule book, plus the glossary.

Discussions and Projects Since Convention

In February, after the BOD's winter meeting, Rob Copeland made the committee aware of a conflict between part 4 and part 1 of the rule book:

At this past weekend Board meeting it came to light that a recent Rules Committee interpretation is in conflict with Part 4 Participation.

Briefly; an adult multi-sport event with a minimum age of 21 wanted to get their swimming events sanctioned (as we did for them last year). They are being denied a sanction because their lowest age group is 21-24 instead of 18-24.

401.2 Participation ... allows for participation restrictions based on the individual's age, so setting a minimum entry age of 21 (or 55, e.g. Senior Games) is allowed. However, 102.3.1 and 102.5.2 ... require all age groups. The Rules Committee was asked for an interpretation of the rules and they said that a sanctioned event must offer all age groups regardless of participation restrictions.

Since then the committee has discussed the issue but made no decisions on how to proceed. We will continue discussion during our meetings at convention. We will also discuss, possibly amend, and approve or disapprove the nine proposals submitted for consideration.

Agenda

1. Take roll
2. Discuss and vote on legislation proposals.
3. Discuss how to alleviate perceived conflicts between Part 1 and Part 4 concerning age groups and sanctioning events.

LMSC Development

Committee Members

Michael Moore, Chair; Paige Buehler, Vice Chair

Marcia Anziano, Lisa Brown, Michael Carlson, Linda Chapman, Jerry Clark, Sally Dillon, Viki Hill, Matt Hooper, Mary Hull, Tim Locrone, Hugh Moore, Sonny Nguyen, Bruce Rollins, C.J. Rushman, Natalie Taylor

Ex-Officio: Chris Stevenson, VPLO; Leianne Crittenden, Governance

Introduction

The LMSC Development Committee is responsible for managing LMSC and zone boundaries, managing the LMSC standards policy and working with the Vice President of Local Operations to conduct and communicate an annual standards report for each LMSC. The committee fosters communication across all LMSCs and LMSC volunteer roles by providing:

- a. Peer-to-peer tele-conferences for interactive discussion of issues
- b. Outreach and mentoring through the zone chairs
- c. Educational seminars and workshops on selected topics
- d. Recommended “best” practices.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. LMSC Standards– Surveyed 52 LMSC Chairs and 52 LMSC Treasurers. Some of the results were from the national office. Preliminary results were given at the LMSC Leadership Summit in March. The full results will be discussed at the LMSC Standards: Everything that you wanted to know but were afraid to ask! Workshop.
 - a. The results were given to the Vice President of Local Operations Chris Stevenson. There were eleven LMSCs that achieved full compliance. Chris partnered with the zone chairs to work through the remediation process with the LMSCs that did not achieve compliance with all mandatory standards.
 - b. Originally the committee planned to repeat the survey (with process improvements) in July, but after consultation with the VPLO and with the staffing changes in the National Office, the committee decided to postpone the collection of data. The committee will complete a follow up survey after convention that includes better methods of gathering and disseminating the information in a more timely manner.
2. Webinars – There is a webinar scheduled for August 26 on running dual sanctioned meet, whether they be combined, parallel or interwoven. The focus will be on the differences and how to prepare for, run and report on dual sanctioned meets for each of the meet

formats.

3. Peer to Peer Teleconferences. Many thanks to Jerry Clark who has kept up the momentum on holding monthly LMSC Peer-to-Peer teleconferences. The committee decided on the first Tuesday of the month as a standard date for the teleconference. The mentoring subcommittee provides opportunities each year for various LMSC volunteers to chat in a facilitated call about hot topics, areas of concern or best known methods for getting LMSC work done. Since last convention we have held P2Ps for the following roles: Registrars, Treasurers, Top Ten Recorders, Coaches Chairs, Fitness Chairs, Officials Chairs, LMSC Chairs/Vice Chairs, Open Water Chairs, and planned over the summer are Communications/Editors/Webmasters.
4. Boundaries: Under USMS Rule Book 507.1.6 “The committee may initiate and shall receive, consider, and report proposed amendments to Appendix D: Zone and LMSC Boundaries, . . .” South Central Zone submitted proposed legislation asking that there be changes to the boundaries of Border, North Texas, and South Texas LMSCs. A task force was appointed to review their request for boundary changes enlarging Border LMSC and to change the name of Border LMSC to West Texas LMSC. The LMSC Development Committee has recommended the proposals to the House of Delegates for approval and scheduled time on the committee’s agenda (below) to hear from interested parties on these changes.

Action Items

1. Approval of changes to LMSC boundaries between Border, North Texas and South Texas LMSCs and approval of the name change from Border LMSC to West Texas LMSC (both with effective dates of 1/1/2018.)

LMSC Development Committee Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Approve July meeting minutes and/or review offline decisions
3. Discussion of changes in boundaries of Border, North Texas and South Texas LMSC Boundaries.
4. Discussion of name change of Border LMSC.
5. LMSC Standards survey and results
6. Define scope of LMSC Standards Performance Evaluation for 2017
7. Discuss recurring date/day for Peer to Peer Teleconferences
8. 2017 goals/objectives review & scoring
9. 2018 priorities
10. Review action items
11. Adjourn

Long Distance

Committee Members

Donn Livoni, Chair; Ali Hall, Vice Chair

Jim Davidson, Phyllis Quinn, Mike Fanelli, James Biles, Greta van Meeteren, Jill Wright, Laurie Hug, Allison Ware, Lorena Sims and Josie Palmerin

Ex-Officio: Chris McGiffin, Tracy Grilli, Bob Bruce, Casey Keiber, Bill Roach, Karin Wegner

Introduction

The Long Distance Committee has held conference call meetings on the last Sunday of each month. The attendance on these calls has been outstanding with a maximum of two members absent on any call. At this time the LDC is highly functioning and meeting and/or exceeding all the matrices charged under the rules. For 2017 we added two very high quality individuals who have made significant contributions to the committee. Colleen Driscoll and Melinda Greig-Walker resigned from the committee during the spring.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Coordinated marketing and promotion plans with event hosts, event liaisons, and USMS Marketing personnel.
2. Responded to a request for a disability exemption
3. Phyllis Quinn volunteered again to be the note taker and rules/legislation assistant at convention. She has done an excellent job and our minutes are sent to USMS for posting shortly after they are approved.
4. Approved the updated LDC Operating Guidelines. James was the lead on this effort.
5. Approved a recommendation by Club Assistant to establish upper limits on ePostal entries.
6. Approved five goals for the LDC for 2017. Ali was the lead on this topic.
 1. Increase participation by 10 percent over 2016 in total for postal national championships
 2. Identify two LDC members who will collaborate with two different USMS committees for mutual interests
 3. Incorporate diversity/inclusivity language into 2019 LDNC bid documents
 4. Recruit at least one 2019 festival bid
 5. Identify an LDC member to generate a standard entry form (SEF) for use by OWNC hosts and liaisons
7. Updated Championship Packet and Timelines for 2016 ePostal and Open Water National Championship events.
8. Ali Hall, James Biles and the Bid Selection working group updated the forms for 2019 as well as reached out to former bidders. The LDC and Champs Committee continue to communicate to avoid date conflicts in 2109.

9. The Rules and Legislation working group and the LDC, as a committee of the whole, finished rule proposals.
10. The LDC is within budget at this time.
11. Worked with the USMS National Office on an “ePostal Modernization” proposal. Changed the ending date for the Virtual One Hour Swim from Feb. 28 to Feb. 14.
12. Entry numbers: OHeP 2015 -- 2293, 2016 – 2335, 2017 – 1862 decrease of 20%
2-mile cable 2015 – 85, 2016 – 213, 2017 – 77 decrease of 63% ; 10K, 2015 – 110.
2016 – 63, 2017 -- 140 increase of 122%; 10 miles 2015 – 75, 2016 – 53, 2017 -- 98
increase of 85%; the 1-mile is happening 9/23 and the 5K was held on 7/30 with 96
participants.

Action Items

1. Rule and Legislation proposals.
2. Others as needed

Agenda

1. Approval of minutes from final summer conference call.
2. Presentation of bids for 2019 Virtual and OW NC events.
3. Discussion and possible action on changes to the LDC budget.
4. Discussion and action “Virtual Swims”
5. Discussion and action on rules and legislation proposals.
6. Reports from Chair, Vice Chair and working group leaders.
7. Reports from event liaisons.
8. Discussion of possible goals for 2018.
9. Review of year - What went well and where can we improve our performance.
10. Committee changes for 2018
11. Other business as needed.

Officials

Committee Members

Brian Albright, Chair; Teri White, Vice Chair

Pat Baker, Dave Coddington, Alina de Armas, Omar de Armas, Judy Gillies, Steve Goldman, Michael Abegg, Al Ness, Herb Schwab, Sandy Drake, Kim Bogg

Ex-Officio: Jim Holcomb-USA Swimming, Chris McGiffin-EC, Laura Hamel-USMS Staff

Introduction

The goal of the USMS Officials Committee is to offer training and education opportunities for officials so ensure that competitive meets offered by USMS are officiated according to the highest standards.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Proposed three rules proposals regarding officials.
2. Proposed a USMS service award to recognize a meet official.
3. Reviewed and revised some committee policies.
4. Continued to certify USMS meet officials.
5. Discussed the creation of a referee certification to go along with the starter and stroke & turn certifications.
6. Continued with the Rules Committee a dialogue about the instructions given to officials working USMS Nationals during the officials briefings.

Action Items

1. Rule proposals were approved by the committee and sent to the Rules Committee.
2. USMS Service Award for Officials was approved by the committee and sent to the Awards & Recognition Committee.
3. Committee policies updated.

Agenda

1. Approve minutes from last conference call.
2. Update on USMS Officials Certification program.
3. Discuss potential projects for the committee in 2018.
 - Update official's resources on USMS site
 - Identify any potential rule changes involving officials
 - Review committee policies
 - Identifying potential officials for working nationals
 - Implement USMS Officials Service Award

Open Water

Committee Members

Bob Bruce, Chair; James Kennedy, Vice Chair

Sherry Brooks, Denise Brown, Charlotte Brynn, Mia Erickson Stevens, Kathryn Farrell Guizar, Lynn Hazelwood, Jenny Hodges, Bob Kolonkowski, Sue Nutty, Will Reeves, Ally Sega, Marie Vellucci, Joanne Wainwright (scribe), & Jim Wheeler.

Ex-Officio/Associate Members: Tracy Grilli (now retired), Donn Livoni, Casey Keiber, Chris McGiffin, & Bill Roach.

Introduction

The Open Water Committee (OWC) is charged under 507.1.9. The OWC meets monthly by phone conference (seven meetings since this version of the OWC was convened) to pursue that charge, with generally good participation moving forward this year.

The OWC goal is to promote the development of and participation in open water swimming, and to support quality open water swimming experiences for adults in line with the Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategy of USMS. The measurement of this goal will be the quantity of events, swims, & splashes, the quality of those experiences, and other metrics that will help us measure our progress to accomplish these goals.

Report from Bill Roach, USMS Open Water Compliance Coordinator (7/7/2017):

1. 2017 Open Water USMS sanctioned events:
 - a. 52 Total USMS sanctions issued (8 New, 44 Repeats).
 - b. 1 Event cancelled.
 - c. 84 Safety Directors certified.
2. 2017 Open Water Workshop at convention will include:
 - a. Discussion & walkthrough the online open water sanctioning process.
 - b. Bidding for national championship (open water & postal/virtual) events, including the responsibilities of event hosts & timeline following bid award.
 - c. Q&A

Discussion and Projects since the 2016 Convention:

1. Rules & Legislation (jointly with the Long Distance Committee): Bob Bruce (Chair), Lynn Hazlewood, & Donn Livoni.
 - a. Although the Long Distance Committee (LDC) has the task of considering rules proposals to part 3 of the rule book and preparing proposals to the House of Delegates under 507.1.7, the OWC in cooperation with the LDC reviews all rules proposals relating to open water swimming before the LDC formally considers them. This partnership assures that both committees fully discuss pertinent issues and craft strong proposals.
 - b. At this point, The OWC has considered 21 rules proposals with much discussion, particularly on issues concerning safety. It has recommended those proposals to the LDC as written and/or amended.

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2. Open Water Guide to Operations: Bob Bruce (Chair), Lynn Hazlewood, Kathy Farrell Guizar, & Denise Brown.
 - a. The OWC continually updates the OWGTO on the USMS website as needed.
 - b. To make the OWGTO a more streamlined and user-friendly construct, the OWC Subcommittee is considering an overhaul in the structure of the OWGTO. This is a major project, and it is progressing at a modest pace.
3. Education & Officials: Bob Bruce (Chair), Bob Kolonkowski, Will Reeves, & Bill Roach.
 - a. Safety Director: The OWC has developed and implemented a PowerPoint training program and subsequent test, required for prospective event safety directors; successful completion of both items results in certification to perform the role of Safety Director at USMS-sanctioned swims. This program was piloted in 2016, and revised for 2017 based on our experience. The training and testing programs are run by USMS Safety Compliance officer Bill Roach as a part of the sanction process, and has proven to be quite successful in raising awareness of USMS rules & safety standards and in better safety director performance at race venues.
 - b. Referee: Currently, there is no training/certification program for USMS open water referees. The OWC Officials Subcommittee has drafted a PowerPoint training program for referees, much like Safety Director training, with a goal of implementing this program for the 2018 open water season. This will be a major step in standardizing best referee practices across the country and providing safer & fairer swims for our membership. It is anticipated that this training will be approved before convention.
 - c. Event Director: The OWC is continuing to develop this comprehensive training, a portion of which was piloted at the 2015 Convention. This project is on the back burner this year, but the OWC plans to roll it out in 2018. Ultimately, the OWC will work towards making this training central to event development materials and education.
4. Safety: Jim Wheeler (Chair), Bob Kononkowski, Will Reeves, & Bill Roach. Although not tasked with specific projects this year, but assisted in all discussions of open water safety, as always one of our central concerns.
5. Awards: Suttty Nutty (Chair), Joanne Wainwright, Mia Erickson Stevens, & Ally Sega.
 - a. Open Water Service Award: The OWC has improved its evaluation matrix. It has advertised for nominees for its annual major award, and has received four nominations so far.
 - b. Open Water Pioneers: The OWC has discussed briefly methods of honoring those individuals who have served as pioneers in USMS open water swimming, but has taken no action yet. This will be a long term project.
6. Open Water Development: Lynn Hazlewood, James Kennedy, Bob Kolonkowski, Will Reeves, Ally Sega, & Bob Bruce.
 - a. Lynn has developed a draft document that will guide this recently-formed subcommittee through the near future.
 - b. The work of this group will be central to the direction of the OWC as it starts 2018.

7. OW Swim Training: Ally Sega, Jim Kennedy, Mia Erickson Stevens, Will Reeves, Mark Johnston, Bob Kolonkowski, & Charlotte Bryn. This subcommittee will work with the Coaches Committee as they develop the open water training module for coaching certification.
8. Task force: Will Reeves (Chair) & James Kennedy
 - a. FLOG query results generated by Sterling were provided to James from 2016 thru May 2017. Further analysis of the data is needed.
 - b. This task force will consider ways to track swimmer open water yardage (perhaps as an extension of the Go-the-Distance program) and to collate information about where USMS swimmers can find programs that include safe open water swimming practices.
9. Administration:
 - a. Minutes: Approved OWC meeting minutes—very capably compiled by scribe Joanne Wainwright—have been submitted to the USMS Secretary.
 - b. Action items: All action items have been dutifully noted in each set of minutes.
 - c. Budget: Other than the expense of committee calls, the OWC has not incurred any expenses.

Agenda

1. Opening: Attendance, review of previous minutes
2. Standard business:
 - a. Rules & legislation review, as needed
 - b. OW Guide to Operations update
 - c. Education & officials program update
 - d. Awards update
 - e. Safety & sanction update
3. Open discussion: Development & promotion of open water events for 2018.
4. Other/New Business
5. Closing

Recognition and Awards

Committee Members

Ray Novitske, Chair; Megan Lassen, Vice Chair

Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Chris Campbell, Ruth Carter, MJ Caswell, Nadine Day, Sally Dillon, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Viki Hill, Lori Payne, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val

Ex-Officio: Tracy Grilli, Chris Stevenson

Introduction

The Recognition and Awards Committee oversees all U.S. Masters Swimming volunteer service awards, even though some awards are selected by other committees. The committee receives nominations and selects recipients for the Capt. Ransom J. Arthur MD, Dorothy Donnelly Service, June Krauser Communications, and the Club of the Year awards. The committee membership includes past recipients of the Ransom Arthur Award, and representatives from the Coaches, History & Archives, Long Distance, and Records & Tabulation committees.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee held conference calls in November and March to discuss projects, assign tasks, select subcommittees, and report progress on promotion of award nominations. A third conference call is scheduled for August to plan for award presentations, announcements, and ongoing projects in time for the convention.
2. Local media releases announcing the committee's service award recipients were prepared by committee members and sent to local swim organizations after presentations at the 2016 convention. This was done to encourage recognition of the recipients at the local level, and was accomplished with the help of the National Office communications.
3. The Ransom Arthur Award was presented to Michael Moore of Pacific Masters. The announcement was made at the Spring Nationals meet, and a presentation was made to Michael prior to the meet since he was not attending. There were seven nominations this year.
4. The committee continued in its effort to encourage national service award nominations. The "Wanted" theme campaign began at the Spring National Championship and was later utilized in *Streamlines* and in an email campaign to LMCSs. The number of nominations for this year's June Krauser Communications and Club of the Year awards were highest ever.
5. A subcommittee reviewed potential USMS nominees for the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Honor Contributor category and recommended Walt Reid. The committee voted to nominate Walt Reid to IMSHOF, and nomination was made in May. Unfortunately, Walt was not selected this year, but the committee plans to resubmit his nomination in 2018.
6. The committee continues to write USMS web page bios for our service award recipients.
7. The Officials Committee has proposed a new national service award for USMS officials. The committee will review the proposal and vote at the convention.
8. An effort to encourage local recognition of volunteer service continues. Last year, an online store was set up to allow local clubs and LMCSs to purchase small USMS branded merchandise to purchase for volunteer appreciation. Results are mixed to date

Action Items

1. Review, discuss, and vote on new national Officials Service Award

Agenda

1. Chair's Report
2. Budget review for past year and for 2018
3. Reports on annual projects
 - a. Capt. Ransom J Arthur MD Award
 - b. Dorothy Donnelly Service Award
 - c. June Krauser Communications Award
 - d. Club of the Year Award
4. Reports of 2017 projects
 - a. Increasing award nominations
 - b. International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame nomination
 - c. Promotion of service awards at the local level
 - d. Online volunteer recognition store
5. Review of new service award honoring officials
6. Committee policy changes review
7. Projects for the upcoming year

Records and Tabulation

Committee Members

Jeanne Seidler, Chair; MJ Caswell, Vice Chair

Cheryl Gettelfinger, Ginger Pierson, Walt Reid, Mary Sweat, Kim Thornton, Hans Van Meeteren

Ex-Officio: James Matysek (USMS Office), Mary Beth Windrath (National Swims Administrator-USMS Office),

EC: Chris Stevenson (VP of Local Operations)

Introduction

The Records and Tabulation Committee is responsible for the process of recording and verifying Top 10 times, All-American and All-Star rosters, and USMS national records for all three courses. In addition to a chair and vice-chair, the committee includes the National Swims Administrator, who collects, verifies and compiles Top 10 submissions from the LMSCs, and also receives and verifies record applications and maintains the USMS records. The pool measurement process is within the domain of the committee. The committee maintains the USMS List of Measured Pools. The committee works with the LMSC Top Ten Recorders.

The committee works closely with the USMS Webmaster & IT Director for the online publication of lists, rosters and records, and to simplify and automate the compilation and verification of all swim performances in pools measured as per USMS pool measurement rules.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. For the past year, the National Swims Administrator continued the customary roles of verifying, compiling and publishing USMS Records and Top 10 Swims along with maintaining the USMS List of Measured Pools. The committee chair published the list of Top 10 swims and All-Americans on the USMS website. Mary Sweat provides volunteer assistance for the Top 10 processing.
2. Committee business was taken up during one conference call and electronically through email and the secured Records and Tabulation USMS Administrative Forum defined for this business purpose.
3. The following documents were updated for clarity and accuracy: the Application for USMS and/or World Record, the Pool Length Certification form and the Split Notification Form. The two forms used most often by the LMSC volunteers (pool measurement and record application) are being developed with a fill-in Adobe form option.
4. The USMS List of Measured Pools has been kept up to date with pool measurement documents provided by LMSC Top Ten Recorders. The USMS List is a comprehensive reference of all pools which have been measured for USMS competition. This effort continues as an on-going process. There has been a project on the projects list to provide a database for pool measurements to replace the spreadsheet version but the project has no priority.
5. A request will be made to prioritize including a USMS record identification process in the Top 10 tools.
6. Numerous inquiries were made to the committee, mostly to the Chair and National Top Ten Administrator regarding various questions related to Top Ten, pool measurement,

availability of Top Ten times, and split request listings in the Event Results Database (ERDB). The bulk of the work of this committee actually goes on behind the scenes without a lot of committee interaction. Swimmers in the LMSCs are helpful in reporting potential errors in the meet results uploaded to the ERDB.

7. One Proposal has been submitted to the Legislation Committees as noted below:
 - a. **505.1.11** Adds reference to pool measurement as area of responsibility
8. Two members, Walt Reid and Mary Beth Windrath, having participated in a joint project with the Rules Committee in 2016 to review timing rules related to FINA changes are again consulting on the new FINA rule pertinent to timing precision required for FINA records that becomes effective September 21st.

Action Items

None

Agenda

1. Introductions.
2. Summarize changes in the past year, new information for Top Ten Recorders published in the Guide to Operations, various issues resolved during the year.
3. Summarize remaining projects in E2EEM. Summarize legislation proposals for the 2017 Convention.
4. Open Discussion on RT projects for 2017-2018, potential rules, legislation or policy changes for 2018. A request will be made to prioritize including a USMS record identification process in the Top 10 tools. Emphasis will also be on the priority for the pool measurement database to replace the spreadsheet currently maintained and published once per month.
5. Open Feedback Session ... members and audience to discuss the topic of supporting needs of Top Ten Recorders on the LMSC level. (Access to Sanction Information, Publishing local records & Other topics from the floor.)

Registration

Committee Members

Leo Letendre, Chair; Marcia Anziano, Vice Chair

Susan Ehringer, Douglas Handler, Tim Lecrone, Arni Litt, Charlene O'Brian, George Simon, Kim Thornton, Dave Young

Ex-Officio: Steve Hall

Associate Member: Diann Bauer

Introduction

The registration committee has initiated work on its 2015-2016 goals as well as working on day-to-day issues as we are required.

Discussions and Projects Since Convention

None

Rules

Committee Members

Charles Cockrell, Chair; Kathy Casey, Vice Chair

Carolyn Boak, Chris Colburn, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Laura Groselle, Mollie Grover, Karen Harris, Matt Hooper, Brian Hoyt, Claire Letendre, Chris Lysinger, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Steve Unruh, Rand Vaillancourt.

Ex-Officio: Brian Albright, Tracy Grilli, Meg Smath, Jay Thomas, Ed Tsuzuki.

Introduction

Since the 2016 convention, the rules committee has been reviewing specific sections of the part one rules based on issues identified from proofreading the 2017 rules book, questions received from USMS members, situations arising from USMS sanctioned meets, and rules changes made by FINA, USA Swimming, and other swimming organizations. Throughout the year, the chair routinely answers questions received from USMS members and provides rulings on interpretations of part one rules.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee considered and issued an interpretation on age groups at USMS meets, clarifying that any event offered at a USMS sanctioned meet must be offered for all of the age groups listed in article 102.3 without exception.
2. The committee considered a protest of interpretation of part one rules dealing with acceptance of watch times as a secondary system to a semiautomatic primary timing system for USMS records.
3. The chair updated the list of briefing points for officials for use at national championship meets.
4. The chair addressed several questions regarding the use of equipment at USMS sanctioned meets. USMS article 102.12.1E says that no swimmer is allowed to wear or use any device or substance that enhances speed, pace, or buoyancy. Article 107.1.2B(3), concerning disability accommodations, says that modifications which involve aids to buoyancy or speed are not permitted. Therefore, use of this kind of equipment is not permitted in any sanctioned competition, even as a disability accommodation. The chair clarified further that referees should not knowingly permit the use of equipment, illegal swimwear, or other practices that would lead to disqualification.
5. The chair considered and issued rulings for swimwear medical exemptions per USMS rule 102.12.1C.
6. The chair attended the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee Meeting in June 2017.
7. The committee reviewed and considered additional proposed changes to the USMS rules of competition proposed by the rules committee and other standing committees per USMS article 601.
8. The committee received and reviewed changes to the FINA rules that affect acceptance of times reported by manual (watches) and semiautomatic (buttons) primary timing systems for world records.
9. The committee reviewed the sections of appendix B that deal with rules differences between USMS and other organizations (USA Swimming, NCAA, and High Schools).

10. The chair answered numerous questions received from USMS members throughout the year and initiated a USMS Rules Committee blog on the USMS website to address rules questions and provide a resource for USMS coaches, swimmers, and officials.

Action Items

1. Consider and recommend proposed changes to USMS part one (swimming rules and glossary) to the USMS House of Delegates.
2. Consider and approve changes to committee policies (disability, championship liaison, others).
3. Ongoing project to compile and review previous situations and resolutions.

Agenda

1. Approval of minutes from rules committee conference calls.
2. Proposed changes to the Glossary and Part One of the USMS rules.
3. Changes to committee policies.
4. Review progress on situations and resolutions project.
5. New business.

Sports Medicine and Science

Megan Carlson, Chair; Sally Berry, Vice Chair (resigned July due to conflicts)

The Sports Medicine and Science Committee met every other month this year. Our meetings included the following topics:

Ongoing subcommittees

- **Sports Medicine Blog**

- Jessica Seaton continues to promote health and wellness through our blog on the USMS website. Topics vary depending on what's "hot" or in the news. We do occasionally receive topic requests from USMS members and Committee members.

- **Nationals Booth**

- We did not have a booth at Spring Nationals; plans were in place but closer to the event our participant regretfully chose not to continue with the planned event.
- Summer Nationals we hosted a research study held by Jasmine Hanson, from Concordia University, looking at the effects/benefits of taping Her synopsis was as follows:
 - "Swimmers! If you are interested in how range of motion and pain are related in the shoulder please participate in a study ongoing the meet. This study will look at a potential non invasive treatment option for shoulder pain very common in swimmers using kinesiology tape. The study only takes about 30 minutes to complete and all can participate to support what could help make an impact on how we can deal with shoulder and upper torso issues as swimmers.
The project will include an upper body questionnaire. A simple functional assessment of the upper body. Then kinesiology tape will be applied to the anterior muscular of the shoulder. After 30 minutes, the functional assessment will be redone and tape removed. You are free to do as you wish for the 30 minutes waiting period. Tape will need to be removed prior any competitions."
 - Several SMS Committee members were able to attend the meet and assist with the event.
 - We are awaiting feedback from Jasmine regarding the event and hope to present that information at USAS Convention.

- **Convention Presentation**

- Update from last years presentation:
 - Dr. Tanaka and his team reported a large influx of surveys completed by USMS members, which was key to their research study. They expressed their gratitude and have interest in continuing to work with USMS for future endeavors.
- For the 2017 presentation, initial plans were to present changes to the Open Water regulations from FINA. Unfortunately no changes were decided upon this year. We changed our presentation in August, with the help of Committee member Sally Guthrie. Her presentation is as follows:
 - Title:
 - All about us - Results of the health status of USMS swimmers survey
 - Description:
 - The presentation will include a synopsis of four publications resulting from a study of the USMS population. In 2010 a survey of health status was conducted in USMS members. These four resulting publications evaluated overall health, hypertension and treatment, statin use, and dietary supplement use in USMS respondents - in comparison to the general US population.

Other items:

- **Public Service Announcement -**
 - **Getting Checked Out**
 - SMS Committee had been working with a USMS member requesting a PSA supporting cardiac check-ups with a cardiologist. While the SMS Committee supports annual wellness visits, we could not officially endorse the requested PSA message.
 - **Health benefits of swimming**
 - SMS Committee is working with the National Office to help identify USMS members to participate in a PSA-style video prompting the health and wellness benefits of swimming.
- **Fitness Initiative**
 - This project is being led by the National Office and the Fitness Committee. The initiative is in its initial stages and has the support of the SMS Committee as needed.

The SMS Committee plans to meet once more before the USAS Convention in Dallas.

Breadbasket Zone

Marcia Anziano, Chair; Mary Pohlmann, Vice Chair

Introduction

This report will highlight individual LMSCs and their successes from the past year.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

At the 2016 convention, discussion continued on how to improve communication, use of a Website, and the use of Facebook. It was concluded to use the USMS Breadbasket Zone Facebook page. A request has been submitted to place a link to this on the Breadbasket Zone page of the USMS Website.

Ozark is pleased to report having offered 4 sanctioned pool events, 1 recognized meet and one open water event this past year. They hosted the Breadbasket Zone meet at the Chuck Fruit Natatorium in Edwardsville, IL, and have enjoyed a very favorable relationship with the administrators of that facility. The Saluki Masters Swim Club workout group of St Louis Area Masters received a Swimming Saves Lives grant for 2017. With this grant the volunteer instructors from Saluki Masters were able to offer free Adult Learn to Swim lessons in Carbondale, IL, this summer for 42 students ages 20-72.

Minnesota was very busy during this past year as they are hosting the 2016 USMS Summer National Championships in August. At the same time, they continue to expand their Open Water programs. They have grown from 12 to 16 clubs over the past year.

Highlights from Nebraska for the past year include hosting successful Fall and winter meets. They are planning a new meet this year. A dual meet between Nebraska and Iowa. Bragging rights to the winner. Points will not be awarded just by winners but also by number of entrants. This event will switch between a 25 meter pool and a 25 yard pool each year. Their New Year's Day swim is always a big success. 30 participants. It is 100 swims. Swimmers chooses 50's, 75's or 100's and the time 1:30 or 1:40. They can switch distance and/or time after the first 50 swims. It is great fun. And, best of all, they raised \$450 for a local kids swim program.

Colorado ran another successful state meet on the Western slope. It grew in attendance over the previous meet held in that location. They continue to struggle with their unique use of open water workouts. This year a workout group took over the administration and coordination of the area, which in the past had been handled at the board level. Again this year, the USMS insurance is proving to be the big hurdle. Colorado has expanded from 7 to 11 clubs, and several new additions were made to the board and chairs; Stacy Broncucia and Nicole Vanderpoel are board members at large and Terry Heggy is the new coaches chair. The at large positions were added to the by-laws several years ago and the positions were finally filled. They look to those positions as valuable voting members who can also help us with projects throughout the year.

Iowa held a short course Spring meet in Council Bluffs and the State Championships were held in Grinnell. Iowa has expanded from 4 to 7 clubs.

The South Dakota LMSC hosted a new open water swim in July at Pactola Lake in the Black Hills. They held their State Meet in April for the first time at the Midco Aquatic Center in Sioux Falls attended by 46 swimmers and set 61 new state records.

Agenda

- Election of new zone chair
- Discussion of a virtual zone meet – this came up last year after the meeting, I think we should address it during the meeting
- Use of USMS Breadbasket Zone Facebook page – encourage others to post things here and continued discussion of communication
- Discussion of the LMSC Standards – thoughts, ideas, opinions – now that we are thru the first iteration
- Zone Meet rotation.
- 2018 - Iowa
- 2019 - Nebraska
- 2020 - Minnesota
- 2021 - Colorado

Colonies Zone

Natalie Taylor, Chair; Rand Vaillancourt, Vice Chair

Members: Everyone who attend convention and is registered within the Colonies Zone

Ex-Officio: n/a

Introduction

It has been a pleasure to serve as Colonies Zone Chair for the last two years. We have a vibrant zone with members from 10 LMSCs: New England, Connecticut, Niagara, Adirondack, Metropolitan, New Jersey, Delaware Valley, Maryland, Potomac Valley and Virginia who are heavily involved in USMS.

With the changes to my responsibilities at home, I am not able to commit as much time to USMS as I would like, so I have to step back from some of my positions. I know there are great leaders in our Zone who will take on the job of Zone Chair for the coming years.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. LMSC Standards Survey and Results.
 - 1.1. Each LMSC Chair and Treasurer was surveyed on the new LMSC standards. Standards that were not met, were corrected, or LMSCs were put on a remediation plan.
2. Zone Championships held:
 - 2.1. Pool: SCM (Worcester Polytechnic Institute), SCY (GMU-Fairfax)
3. Solicitation for new Zone Chair
4. Solicitation for nominations for the Colonies Zone Dorothy 'Dot' Donnelly Award
5. LMSC Development Committee projects

Action Items (for Convention)

1. Elect a new Zone Chair
2. Award 2017 Colonies Zone Dorothy 'Dot' Donnelly Award
3. Award 2017 - 2018 Zone Championships
4. Solicit bids for any available 2017-2018 Zone Championships
5. Encourage more communication between LMSC Chairs in the Zone

Agenda

1. Call to Order/ Introductions
2. Presentation of the 2017 Colonies Zone Dorothy 'Dot' Donnelly Award
3. Nominations for a new Zone Chair
 - 3.1. Introduction of nominees
 - 3.2. Voting
4. LMSC Development Committee Standards Survey Results
5. LMSC Development Committee Updates
6. Zone Championship Recap
 - 6.1. 2016 SCM
 - 6.2. 2017 SCY
7. New Business

USMS Zone Reports and Agendas

8. Events
9. Adjourn

Dixie Zone

Matt Hooper, Chair

Members= all USMS members in any of the Zones' seven (7) LMSCs: Southern, Southeastern, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, and Florida Gold Coast.

Introduction

The Dixie Zone committee meets annually in-person at the USMS Convention. Items that come up outside of convention are addressed via communication among the Zone chair and the LMSC chairs.

Action Items

-Zone chair election (term is 2 years).

-Election of 2018 Zone championships hosts (for: short course yards, long course meters, open water, and short course meters).

Agenda

2017 Dixie Zone meeting

Thursday, September 14, 5:30-7:00 p.m.

(Hyatt Regency Dallas, Sanger A/B)

1. Roll call / attendance.
2. Reports (officers, chairs, etc.).
3. Elect Zone chair for 2018-19 term
4. Elect Zone Championships hosts for 2017.
5. Discussion on recent LMSC Standards.
5. Old business.
6. New business.

Great Lakes Zone

CJ Rushman, Zone Chair

The Great Lakes Committee meets annually at USMS Convention, and operates between Conventions via email and phone calls amongst the Zone's LMSC chairs. The committee is comprised of representatives from each of the eight LMSC within the Zone.

LMSCs in the zone are: Allegheny, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Lake Erie Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

The Great Lakes Zone has a plethora of swim meets with open events increasing as well. We are drawing more triathletes which is keeping our numbers steady. Great Lakes Zone membership is overall stable. As of June 15th, 2017, the Great Lakes membership is 7315, which is 1% higher than 2016 and with an increase in retention rate of 92% from 89% in 2016.

Our zone hosts the ever-popular Big Shoulders 2.5K & 5K Open Water in Chicago, Illinois. Louisville, Kentucky will host a Level 1 & 2 Coach Certification course in September and Ohio will host a swim clinic in September with Rowdy Gaines. The Zone will have a 2-day Zone Championship held at I.U.P.U.I, September 30th & October 1st to be swam in short course meters.

Zone Issue

1. Funding – How to utilize the unallocated funds collected from the Great Lakes LMSC from the past several years.

Action Items

1. Discuss new compliance standards and how to help our LMSC's.
2. Further develop and promote Zone Meets (summer and winter)
3. Solicit ideas for use of Great Lakes Zone funds

Great Lakes Meeting Zone Agenda

Thursday 5:30 pm – 7:00 pm – Ariel Queen

1. Roll call and introduction of New Delegates
2. Approve 2016 minutes
3. Review LMSC Standards
4. Discussion/solicitation of projects for funding by Great Lakes Zone
5. Election of Zone Chair / At-Large Director position nomination
6. Other business
7. Adjourn

Northwest Zone

Sally Dillon, Chair

Ken Winterberger (AK, also zone Treasurer), Matthew Bronson (IW), Jeanne Ensign (MT), Tim Waud (OR), Sally Dillon (PN), Jim Clemmons (SR), and Karen Oliver (UT).

Ex-Officio: At-Large Director Sarah Welch (PN), Webmaster Hugh Moore (PN), Zone Record Keeper Steve Darnell (OR).

Introduction

The Northwest Zone covers an area of 1,044,936 square miles, which includes all of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Utah, and Washington. There are seven LMSCs as Idaho, Oregon, and Washington combine to form four of them: IW, OR, PN, and SR. With such a broad area to reach out to, the chair has made good use of the Zone Jet, which was donated last year by the Breadbasket Zone.

The NW Zone roster currently lists 94 USMS members who are volunteering at the board level of their LMSC. The Zone conducts conference calls in March, June, and December and an in-person meeting at the USMS convention in September. While all leaders within the zone are invited, conference calls typically have 12-15 attending. Meeting minutes are posted on the USMS website. At “press time”, the zone has 4,237 members and 66 clubs. Snake River is the smallest LMSC with 146 members and 8 clubs and Pacific NW is the largest with 1574 members and 10 clubs. There are numerous workout groups as well. The Zone distributes a newsletter 4-times a year, which is posted to the Zone website at www.northwestzone.org/.

Three USMS National Championship open water swims were scheduled to take place in the Pacific Northwest in 2017. The 2-mile Cable OW Championship took place June 24 at Foster Lake (near Sweet Home) and the 5K Long Distance OW Championship took place July 30 at Elk Lake (near Bend); both events in Oregon. The 1-mile Sprint Distance OW Championship will be held at Angle Lake in SeaTac, WA on September 23.

2017 NW Zone Championships

NW Zone championship meets are held in all courses: SCY, LCM, SCM and OW.

- 2017 SCY Championship – King County Aquatic Center, Federal Way, WA, Blue Wave Aquatics (host), April 8 & 9, 290 entries.
- 2017 Open Water Championship – Madison Park on Lake Washington, Seattle WA, ORCA Swim Team (host), Fat Salmon 3.2-mile swim, July 15, 340 entries.
- 2018 LCM Championship – Mt. Hood Community College outdoor pool, Gresham, OR, Oregon Reign Masters (host), August 25-27.
- 2018 SCM Championship – Hood River Aquatic Center, Hood River, OR, Columbia Gorge Masters (host), November 11 & 12.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

December meeting highlights: The zone’s ribbon design was refreshed, which included a more simplified zone logo. Two delegates from the zone’s smaller LMSCs received reimbursement some of their convention expenses (the zone budgets for this support). The zone policies were amended to reduce the surcharge per swimmer that zone championship meet hosts are required to pay. It is now \$1/swimmer for pool meets and 50¢/swimmer for open water swims. The fees help defray the cost of the zone ribbons, which are made available to each meet host. The policies were also amended to remove the distance limit

for an open water zone championship, which was 1500-meters to 2-miles. Bids for the 2017 zone championship events were selected.

March meeting highlights: LMSC Standards were discussed at length and Sally later consulted with LMSCs that had questions and/or deficiencies. NW Zone Representative Sarah Welch reported on the February Board of Director's meeting. Numerous NW zone members represented their LMSCs at the USMS Leadership Summit and some shared their experiences.

June meeting highlights: Sarah reported on the staff changes taking place at the National Office. The zone's logo was discussed again, this time to consider replacing the old logo with the updated version approved for the ribbons, or something similar. A final decision will be made at or before the meeting at convention. It was announced that the LMSC Development Committee will not conduct another LMSC Standards survey until after the committee meets at convention. This should give the LMSCs adequate time to resolve any issues they have in meeting the standards.

Agenda

1. Call to order and Introductions
2. Actions taken between meetings:
 - a. Approval of March 12, 2017 minutes
3. Reports:
 - a. Chair – Sally
 - b. Treasurer – Ken
 - c. Webmaster – Hugh
 - d. Zone Record keeper – Steve (via email)
4. Old Business:
 - a. Zone Championship meet update
 - b. *The Chatter* – zone newsletter
 - c. Zone Logo revision
 - d. Finance subcommittee report – Sarah, Ken, Susie
5. New Business:
 - a. Election – NW Zone Chair
 - b. Zone Championships – Bidding for 2018 events
6. LMSC Reports – summary of LMSC's accomplishments during the past year.
 - a. Alaska
 - b. Inland Northwest
 - c. Montana
 - d. Oregon
 - e. Pacific Northwest
 - f. Snake River
 - g. Utah
7. Convention "hot topics"
8. Other business as time allows
9. Adjourn

Oceana Zone

Michael Moore, Zone Chair

Introduction

The Oceana Zone includes the Pacific and Hawaii LMSCs. From one end of the zone to the other is over 2,700, miles, the greatest distance of any end to end distance of any LMCS. The committee meets annually at the U.S. Masters Swimming convention and conducts other business as needed by email and phone.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The two LMSCs in the zone only share a contiguous ocean. Both are well run LMSCs but like most of US Masters Swimming both have had a 1.5% decline in membership on a year to year basis. As of the end of July, there are 11,774 USMS members in the Oceana Zone. Both LMSCs have done well against LMSCs standards and are considered well run organizations.

Oceana Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday 9:45am – 11:15am – Suite 219

1. Introductions
2. Approval of Last Year's minutes
3. Reports of the LMSCs
- 1.4 Election of Zone Chair
4. Review of proposed rule changes that may be of interest to the Zone
5. Oceana representation on USMS Committees
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

South Central Zone

Bruce Rollins, SC Zone Chair; Vacant, Vice Chair

Chairs: Dewey Smith, Chair Oklahoma; Ed Coates, Chair South Texas, Carrie O'Banion, Chair Arkansas; Ken Pipken/Richard Garza, Chairs North Texas; Bruce Rollins, Gulf Chair; Chris Lysinger, Border Chair

Introduction

Our purpose at our annual Convention Zone meeting is to discuss, organize and direct South Central Zone Meets, opportunities and policies for the upcoming year(s). First, this document is a recap of this year's activities and projects after last year's Convention. Second, this document will list some of the items to be discussed at the upcoming Convention to be held in Dallas on September 13-17, 2017.

Projects Since Last Convention

1. Zone Chairs and Treasurers worked on inputting the LMSC Standards Compliance information survey. Results were published and omissions by LMSCs were noted. The Vice President of Local Operations requested that we attempt to give feedback and work toward rectifying Mandatory Standards that currently were not being met by July (which was when the next survey was originally schedule). In June, the LMSC Development Committee decided that some of the Standards were not applicable to all LMSCs (i.e. following Standards for Open Water competitions if the LMSC had none.). The next survey has been rescheduled to be run sometime after the Convention. The objective is to meet all Mandatory and Target Standards by LMSC ASAP.
2. The LMSC Chairs worked together to get agreement from all SC Zone LMSCs to reconfigure the Border, North and South Texas LMSCs, increasing coverage for the Border LMSC. This was done at the request of Border Chair Chris Lysinger who travels the Panhandle as a swim official. Currently, there are only six registered USMS swimmers in that area. The Zone also proposed an LMSC name change from Border to West Texas for a clearer description for the LMSC. Both items were unanimously approved by the LMSC Development Committee in July and will be presented at the House of Delegates Meeting at the Dallas Convention for approval by the Delegates. Lots of work! Well done.
3. The South Central Zone was host for the LMSC Summit held in Houston and will be the host for the upcoming Convention to be held in Dallas. Richard Garza has been playing an important role in hosting the Convention and is also the USMS Coach for the World Championships to be held in Budapest, Hungary in August.
4. Recognized Susan Ingraham as the Jesse Coon Memorial Service Award in 2017 for her contributions to the SC Zone, South Texas LMSC and the MOST team. She has continued to up-date Zone Records for LCM and SCY meets.
5. Changed leadership in North Texas from Ken Pipken to Richard Garza as the North Texas LMSC Chair. Ken had requested a replacement.

Action Items

1. Elect Zone Chair for 2018/2019 term.
2. Review Zone Championship Meets for 2017.
3. Select Zone Meets for 2018 and 2019 (if possible).
4. Request nominees for the Jesse Coon Memorial Swimming Award for 2018.
5. Follow - up on Zone Vice Chair position.
6. Develop written Zone Policies.

Agenda

Welcome and Roundtable of introductions-

- a. Conflict of interest disclosure request.
- b. Designate a “**minute taker**” for SC Zone Meeting.
- c. **LMSC Chairs** - address a few sentences about your LMSC – Size, meets, accomplishments, and anything else we might enjoy.

Old Business Review-

- a. SCY Zone Championship Meet - The Woodlands – Stacey Eikes
- b. LCM Zone Championship Meet - Texas A&M University – Nicole Rembach
- c. Future of Socials/Volunteers
- d. Zone Records - Susan Ingraham
- e. Zone Chair - Term Limits? Zone Vice Chair - Nominations.

New Business –

- a. Elect Zone Leadership - Chair at a minimum
- b. SC Zone Championship Meet Bids
 - a. SCY Meets Bid(s) - Presentation
 - b. LCM Meet Bid(s) - Presentation
 - c. Cost of Awards - Zone Medals/High Point
 - d. Vote/Affirm each choice as a motion
- c. Jesse Coon Memorial Service Award Discussion
 - a. Recognize Susan Ingraham - 2017 Honoree
 - b. Nominations from each LMSC
- d. Emmet Hine Zone Award - Kris Wingenroth
- e. Fitness Events - What is each LMSC doing?
- f. Open Water in the Zone - What can we do? Open water Zone Chair?
- g. Formalize Zone policies and procedures - Committee

Address Parking Lot Thoughts and Adjourn

Southwest Zone

Mary Hull, Zone Chair

Introduction

The Southwest Zone includes Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, and the Southern Pacific LMSCs. The committee meets annually at the U.S. Masters Swimming convention and conducts other business as needed by email. All four LMSCs have hosted meets this year. The zone has also had some open water swims.

This year the zone also hosted the USA Masters Games swim meet in July.

Southwest Zone Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Election of Zone Chair
3. LMSC Reports: Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, Southern Pacific
4. Zone Meets for 2018: SCY---Southern Pacific, SCM---Arizona
5. Old Business
6. New Business

Patty Miller - Candidate for President



The Election Committee has deemed that Patty Miller is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate is running for reelection and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or letters of recommendation.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

I attended the USMS House of Delegates meetings in the following years: 1998; 2001 through 2016

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in being re-elected for a second term as President so I can continue the work that I and the Board, CEO, and volunteers have begun. In the past two years, we hired a new CEO and adopted a revised strategic plan. CEO Dawson Hughes has gotten off to a great

start, focusing on our national office operations and our partnerships with volunteers. There is still change to come and it is important to me to help guide and facilitate that transformation.

We are pursuing the four prongs of our newly revised strategic plan: Membership Value; Brand Clarity; Innovation; and Partnerships. For the partnerships prong, I am particularly focused on the internal partnership with volunteers. We are just beginning to develop in the area of volunteer engagement (see below) and I am interested in shepherding this development.

Finally, I will repeat from my candidate statement two years ago the ultimate driver that keeps me wanting to devote myself to being President: I love swimming. I love to participate for the aesthetic pleasure of being in the water. I love the camaraderie and fun of being with Masters swimmers. I love seeing adults improve their fitness and skills in swimming because of the opportunity that we have provided for them. Being President of USMS would allow me to lead others who have this same passion to enhance the joy of swimming and spread it to others.

I believe I am a good candidate because of my leadership ability, my big picture focus, and my ability to stay calm in the face of change and uncertainty.

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?

Two key issues facing USMS are volunteer engagement and relevance. When I ran for office two years ago, I identified similar issues.

I previously described the first issue as “balance” – trying to find the right balance between activities that are best done by our professional staff and those that are best done by volunteers. As we have worked on this issue in the past 18 months, I now think of it as volunteer engagement – how best to optimize, support, recruit and recognize volunteers. We have prioritized this issue by making it part of our strategic plan in the Internal Partnerships prong. We have begun the dialog to address volunteer engagement in conversations at our Winter Board of Directors meeting, at this year’s successful LMSC Leadership Summit, and in the planning for workshops at our 2017 convention. The Leadership Summit was a great opportunity to listen to our LMSC leaders and hear their ideas, needs, and pain points. We have already learned about some things with which the national office might be able to help so as to free up LMSC and club volunteers to represent USMS where our members and prospective members are.

Relevance is about USMS adapting as our population and its needs change. Key areas for this are generations and diversity. As President, I appointed the Futures Task Force that focuses on younger generations that are our present and future members and volunteers. They have already come up with some great insights that were shared at convention last year and that are being pursued this year. I have supported the national office in its pursuit of the College Club Initiative, which is helping today’s college club swimmers who may become future USMS members. In the area of diversity, I have encouraged USMS’s Diversity Task Force to direct its efforts toward identifying specific areas of underrepresentation before moving forward with proposals for action.

A third area for relevance is ensuring that USMS is offering programming and benefits that are relevant to our ever-developing membership. At this year’s LMSC Leadership Summit, participants learned that, although it varies by LMSC, nationally only about 25% of our members compete. This realization drives us to develop opportunities to engage and retain members with programming and ways of communicating that fit with their desire for fitness. One such effort, stemming from the revised strategic plan, is the national office, working with our Fitness Education Committee, piloting innovative fitness programming.

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:

Governance Committee: 2008 – 2015; Ex officio – 2016 - present

Chair – 2008-2009

Chairs served under – Anthony Thompson; Hugh Moore; Leianne Crittenden

Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee: 1999–2005

Chair – 2003-2005

Chairs served under – Jeanne Crouse; Jack Geoghegan

Safety Education Committee: 1999 – 2002

Chair – 2002

Chairs served under – Julie Heather

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

I have been USMS President since 2015. Before becoming President, I served as USMS's Legal Counsel from 2002 to 2009 and then from 2011 to 2015. Key events to which I contributed during that tenure included revisions to the USMS governance structure; preparation for and hiring of an Executive Director; allowance for electronic signatures that facilitated adoption of on-line registration; establishment of a national headquarters; adoption of the Code of Conduct and refinement of the grievance process in Part 4; and establishment of the Board of Directors Governance Committee.

In addition to USMS committees, I have served on many USMS task forces, including the following:

- ☐ Leadership Summit Task Force - 2017
- ☐ CEO Search Task Force – 2015-2016
- ☐ Strategic Plan Task Force – 2016
- ☐ Executive Director Succession Task Force - 2015
- ☐ National Headquarters Task Force - 2015
- ☐ Ineligible Persons Task Force (Chair) – 2012 – 2013
- ☐ Strategic Planning Task Force (Chair) – 2011
- ☐ Board of Review Task Force – 2011
- ☐ Branding Task Force – 2007-2008
- ☐ Executive Director Hiring Task Force – 2006-2007
- ☐ Executive Director Funding Task Force (Chair) – 2005

I also have experience at the very important local level. I was Chair of the Virginia LMSC from 2010 to 2014, served as President of Virginia Masters Swim Team, and was co-director of the Chris Green Lake Swim.

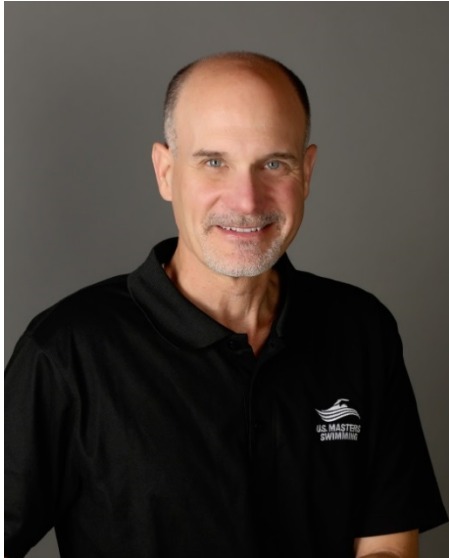
In the swimming world outside of USMS, I am on the Ethics Committee for United States Synchronized Swimming and I formerly served on the Board of Directors of USA Swimming as USMS's liaison.

Please list any other information you would like included.

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

When I ran for office two years ago, I said my top three priorities were to hire a new CEO, develop a revised strategic plan, and work toward finding the best balance between contributions of professional staff and volunteers. The first two priorities are complete and the work on volunteer engagement is underway. It has been my privilege to work with awesome people – both volunteer and staff – who care so much about promoting health, fitness, wellness and challenge through swimming. I hope to continue to lead us through continued development for the next two years.

Dan Cox - Candidate for Vice President of Administration



The Election Committee has deemed that Dan Cox 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Jay DeFinis* and received letters of recommendation from *Skip Thompson* and *Paige Buehler* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: ☒X___ Yes ___ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: ☒X___ Yes ___ No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: ☒X___ Yes ___ No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: ☒X___ Yes ___ No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): ☒X___ Yes ___ No ___ N/A

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

2003 San Diego
2004 Orlando
2005 Greensboro
2006 Dearborn
2007 Anaheim
2008 Atlanta
2009 Chicago
2010 Dallas
2011 Jacksonville
2012 Greensboro
2014 Jacksonville
2015 Kansas City
2016 Atlanta Ga

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in continuing on the Board of USMS as Vice-President of Administration in order to see some of the initiatives I am involved in as Great Lakes Director become a reality. If for any reason the President is unable to fulfill the duties of the office, the Vice-President of Administration would assume the role as President. This person needs to be familiar with the many issues facing USMS and what steps are currently in place to work on those issues; if a transition becomes necessary, it should be done seamlessly.

Whoever serves as Vice President of Administration should have a working knowledge and understanding of the committees they are responsible for, Legislation, Rules, Championship and Registration. In my service to USMS, I have served on the Legislation Committee and as Meet Director for Ohio Masters (I was selected to be the Meet Director by Gay Games when they came to Cleveland for this six day International Meet). As Chair of Lake Erie, I was involved in overseeing our Registration Volunteers. These areas of service combined with the three years I served on the Board of Directors make me uniquely qualified to serve USMS as Vice President of Administration.

My other service with USMS began when I volunteered at the 2002 Long Course National Championship in Cleveland. From 2004 to the present, I have served in a number of positions, both at the local and national levels. These include President of Ohio Masters Swim Club, Lake Erie LMSC Chairman, Great Lake Zone Chair, Meet Director for the Gay Games in Cleveland Ohio, and my current position as Great Lakes Director.

My service in these positions has given me the opportunity to learn about USMS and assist to improve/enhance our originations at each level. To help enhance our programs on the local level, I established Coach and College Programs. These Programs helped enhance the experience of our members through continuing education for our Coaches to improve their skills. The College Program helped support young swimmers to join USMS; they are the future of our organization. In my position as Great Lakes Director, I served on the task force to find our new CEO, am currently on the College Club Task Force, and the current Chair of our Futures Task Force. These task forces have played (or will play) a integral part in the strategic growth of USMS.

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: Our membership growth is flat with only a small increase. We need to focus on new ways to reach out to both our current membership and potential membership. These issues are being address right now with the Futures Task force and the College Club initiative. The Futures Task force is focusing on how to attract younger members, and the College Club initiative has the potential to be a huge pipeline of members to our ranks. In the Futures Task force (which I Chair), we are exploring why some clubs attract younger members while others do not. We are researching the "why" and then come up with ways to teach other clubs to duplicate their success in this area. The other issue our Futures Task Force is looking at is why people leave us? We will be surveying the people who have left and ask them why; then we will work with the data to find ways to increase our retention rate. Another idea to increase our retention rate would be to implement a lifetime membership (or auto renewal), which would be at no cost to USMS.

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:

USMS Board of Directors -2014- to present
College Club Initiative 2015- to present-Kyle Dreery Chair
CEO Search Task force- 2015-2016 Ed Tsuzuki Chair
Futures Task Force 2016 to present- Daniel Cox Chair
HQ Move Task Force –2015 Ed Tsuzuki Chair
Legislation Committee- 2004 -2015 – Rob Copland, Sean Fitzgerald Chair
Great Lakes Zone Chair 2009-2014
National Board of Review 2013-2015 –Barbara Delanois Chair
LMSC Development Committee –Vice Chair 2014-2015 Paige Buehler Chair
LMSC Development Committee- 2010-2013- Paige Buehler Chair
Election Committee 2012- Michael Moore Chair
Communications Committee 2004-2009 – Hug Moore Chair
Local:
Lake Erie LMSC Chair 2008-2012
President of Ohio Masters Swim club 2004-2008
Webmaster for both Lake Erie LMSC and Ohio Masters

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

Heights Driving School Inc. 1983- Present. CEO My duties include supervising 45 + employees, developing curriculums for teaching teens, adults, remedial and disabled drivers. Manage all financial obligations of the company.

Please list any other information you would like included.

2011 Dorothy Donnelly Service Award
2010 National Leadership award in Traffic Safety
Bachelor degree in Business/Education from The Ohio State University
Disabilities certification – Louisiana State University
Board Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist

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

I am interested in continuing on the Board of USMS as Vice-President of Administration in order to see some of the initiatives I am involved in as Great Lakes Director become a reality. If for any reason the President is unable to fulfill the duties of the office, the Vice-President of Administration would assume the role as President. This person needs to be familiar with the many issues facing USMS and what steps are currently in place to work on those issues; if a transition becomes necessary, it should be done seamlessly.

Whoever serves as Vice President of Administration should have a working knowledge and understanding of the committees they are responsible for, Legislation, Rules, Championship and Registration. In my service to USMS, I have served on the Legislation Committee and as Meet Director for Ohio Masters (I was selected to be the Meet Director by Gay Games when they came to Cleveland for this six day International Meet). As Chair of Lake Erie, I was involved in overseeing our Registration Volunteers. These areas of service combined with the three years I served on the Board of Directors make me uniquely qualified to serve USMS as Vice President of Administration.

My other service with USMS began when I volunteered at the 2002 Long Course National Championship in Cleveland. From 2004 to the present, I have served in a number of positions, both at the local and national levels. These include President of Ohio Masters Swim Club, Lake Erie LMSC Chairman, Great Lake Zone Chair, Meet Director for the Gay Games in Cleveland Ohio, and my current position as Great Lakes Director.

My service in these positions has given me the opportunity to learn about USMS and assist to improve/enhance our originations at each level. To help enhance our programs on the local level, I established Coach and College Programs. These Programs helped enhance the experience of our members through continuing education for our Coaches to improve their skills. The College Program helped support young swimmers to join USMS; they are the future of our organization. In my position as Great Lakes Director, I served on the task force to find our new CEO, am currently on the College Club Task Force, and the current Chair of our Futures Task Force. These task forces have played (or will play) a integral part in the strategic growth of USMS.

Northwestern Mutual

Jay M. De Finis CLTC
Wealth Management Advisor

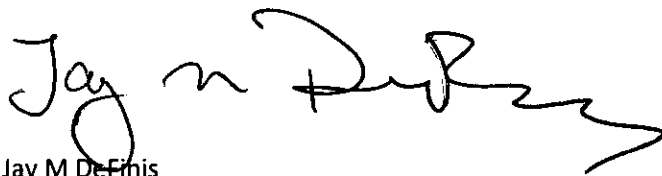
May 25, 2017

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Cleveland, OH 44113-7207
216 241 5840 office
216 566 9489 fax
216 409 1091 cell
jay.definis@nm.com
www.jaydefinis.com

To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to nominate Daniel P Cox for the position of Vice President of Administration.

Thank you for your consideration ,



Jay M DeFinis

Wealth Management Advisor

Cleveland, Ohio

Northwestern Mutual is the marketing name for The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI (NM) (life and disability insurance, annuities and life insurance with long-term care benefits) and its subsidiaries. Jay M. DeFinis is an insurance agent of NM and Northwestern Long Term Care Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI (long-term care insurance), a subsidiary of NM, and a representative for Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company*, Milwaukee, WI (NMWMC) (fiduciary and fee-based financial planning services), a subsidiary of NM and federal savings bank. All NMWMC programs and services are offered only by representatives operating from agency offices of NMWMC. Jay M. DeFinis is a Registered Representative of **Northwestern Mutual Investment Services, LLC** (securities), a subsidiary of NM, broker-dealer, registered investment adviser, and member FINRA and SIPC. There may be instances when this agent represents companies in addition to NM or its subsidiaries.
AR Ins Lic #689324 CA License #OD91763

PAIGE BUEHLER

Dear Elections Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Daniel Cox to the House of Delegates as a candidate for the position of Vice President of Administration.

Daniel would be a valuable member of the Executive Committee because he steps up to challenges and projects. Over the years during which he and I served concurrently on the LMSC Development Committee, Dan played an active role on the Education subcommittee by always taking his share, and more, of the tasks at hand. He is great on special and cyclical projects, such as the convention workshops. In 2015 and 2017, Daniel helped with creating the programming for the LMSC Leadership Summit.

Another reason why I'd recommend Daniel is because he is very adept at listening to the various points of view within a group and contributing to the conversations. He synthesizes information well and can identify the general sentiment of a group to know how to present his ideas and potential solutions.

Daniel's interactive and positive approach makes him a valuable asset in various roles within a group, among them fact-finder, liaison, devil's-advocate and supporter. He comfortably wears the hats of all his volunteer roles and uses the experience gained to help move U.S. Masters Swimming forward as an organization.

I highly recommend Daniel Cox for the position of VP-Administration and invite the Elections Committee to publish this letter in his support.

Sincerely,

Paige Buehler
Vice chair, LMSC Development Committee

Letter of Reference: For Dan Cox to the position of Vice President of Administration for USMS

To: USMS Elections Committee

Date: 5/31/17

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Dan Cox for the position of Vice President of Administration.

I have personally known Dan since he first joined USMS in 1999. He has always been a strong, enthusiastic, and positive leader within U.S. Masters Swimming both at Local, Zone, and National levels of USMS. I first noticed this at the 2002 Long Course National meet where he was heavily involved with the success of the meet. He eventually became Club President, LMSC Chair, and Webmaster in the Lake Erie LMSC.

At the USMS level, Dan became a convention delegate in 2003, and has served on the Legislation, LMSC Development, Communications, and Elections Committee. He served as the Great Lakes Zone Chair for 5 years and during that time was responsible for the implementation of the Great Lakes Open Water Swim Challenge (GLOWS). He served as a member and Vice Chair of the LMSC Development Committee for 5 years and was a key contributor of the Educational and Mentoring subcommittees.

In December of 2014, he was appointed and then elected in 2016 as the Great Lakes Zone At-Large Director of the USMS Board of Directors. Since his election to the BOD, he has been a member of the Headquarters Move Task Force, CEO Search Task Force, College Club Task Force, and the newly created Futures Task as Chair. With his experience on the LMSC Development Committee, he was heavily involved in the preparation, set up, and success of the first two LMSC Leadership Summits in both 2015 and 2017 and this was due to his experience in the planning and organizing of the workshops for delegates at the conventions. All of these contributions in just a year and half of being on the BOD, make him an outstanding candidate for the Vice President position.

One of the major challenges and issues facing USMS today and in the future is membership growth. The work of the College Club and the Futures Task Forces are trying to solve this by attracting younger members to not only join and participate in future USMS programs, but to provide adequate leadership for USMS to succeed in the future. Dan has been involved in this important mission since he first organized a college program that discounted USMS memberships in the Lake Erie LMSC. He then became Meet Director of a joint USMS/College swim meet at Cleveland State University to get them introduced to the "USMS Brand" and have the potential to join the organization as future members. The Futures Task force is in the process of implementing strategies for LMSC and USMS National involvement for both LMSC BOD positions and USMS National Committees members. Dan has been and continues to be at the forefront of this important mission as these task forces will play major role in the future success of attracting younger members.

With his experience being on the Legislation Committee and being heavily involved in the 2002 and 2015 USMS Long Course Summer Nationals plus being Meet Director of the 2014 Gay Games makes him especially qualified because he knows the work and responsibilities of the committees that fall within the purview of the position.

With his love of Masters, his proven track record, and his great attitude, there is no doubt Dan will make a top-rate Vice President of Administration for US Masters Swimming and I cannot recommend him strongly enough.

I am pleased to endorse his candidacy give my permission for this letter to be published to our USMS delegates in the Convention packet.

Sincerely, Skip Thompson

Richard Garza - Candidate for Vice President of Administration



The Election Committee has deemed that Richard Garza 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by and received a letter of recommendation from *Tom Boak* and received a letter of recommendation from *Stuart Smith* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

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

September 11-15, 2013 Anaheim California

September 17-21, 2014 Jacksonville Florida

September 30 - October 4, 2015 Kansas City Missouri

September 21-30, 2016 Atlanta Georgia

Section Three: Questions

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

Because I am passionate about Masters swimming, I want to contribute to as many people as possible. I want to give back to the sport and share Masters swimming with as many adults as possible.

I asked myself, "If I was elected to the Board of Directors for USMS, would I like the person I became, and the skills I would learn along the way? Would this opportunity be an effective way to share my knowledge and skill for as many people as possible? Is this is the best way I can

serve others in Masters swimming on a national level?" The answer to all three of those questions were "YES!".

I believe I would be a good candidate because most of my experience is in administrative work. Yes, I am a coach, but I have fully embraced, and enjoy, the dry side of swimming as well. It's what makes the wet side of swimming, and coaching, possible. I am able to bring the perspectives of an LSMC volunteer, an editor, a stroke and turn judge, an athlete, and a head coach, all at the same time.

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?

Today, I see new members feeling intimidated, and a lack of experience in our future volunteers as issues facing USMS. In the future, I see social media becoming an issue.

The Adult Learn to Swim program is doing a fantastic job of creating educated and certified instructors in areas where adult lessons did not exist before. Many of these Masters programs are already welcoming new and diverse individuals into their programs. It's great to have more people participating in Masters swimming, however, these people who are new to swimming won't be keeping up with Masters swimmers who have been around for decades. This large difference in ability is going to leave the less experienced Masters swimmers out of the full experience USMS wants its members to have.

One possible solution is to create different types of Sanctioned events, similar to USA Swimming's model for swim meets and ability. For example, if you have met qualifying times for Nationals, you CAN'T compete in this particular event. This would create USMS events that would be designed for Masters swimmers who have no time, or don't have any qualifying times for Nationals. This will create a less intimidating environment for the new Masters swimmer, or fitness swimmer that has never been to a Masters swim meet before. Any club could do this today, but creating the option in the rule book would spread the idea nationally and encourage new members to participate in USMS sanctioned events.

Our most valuable asset as an organization is experience. Many of our volunteers have served on local and national committees for many years, and have helped build USMS from the ground up into THE role model for a Masters Swimming National Governing Body. At some point, these experienced and dedicated volunteers will start the next chapter of their lives, and I'm concerned that the next generation of volunteers are going to be behind in the skills and experience necessary to continue providing an amazing service and experience for our members.

I would encourage each committee to create a course, ebook, webinar, cheat sheet, guide, power point presentation, anything they choose to explain what new members should know, and how the committee works. This will allow new committee members to be caught up and on the same page as more experienced members, so less time is spent training and educating new members.

The next generation is growing up, and will be a fully involved part of our membership in the coming years. This group is tech savvy, is used to being connected all the time, tends to post anything and everything on Social Media, and they don't know what a rotary phone is. Their primary form of communication is through the internet. The future issue: There are going to be too many forms of social media. There are going to be more than just Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. It's going to be the responsibility of USMS and each LMSC to either point new members to the designated profiles for USMS and LMSC's, or create profiles in the new social media outlets as they become more prevalent. Proactive use of social media is going to help USMS manage its brand and image in the future.

I have never been a registrar, but the registrar in North Texas has explained to me that it's not possible to edit the information that goes out to new members in North Texas when they register or renew their membership. I would push to give the registrar more control in the content that goes out to new members, so they can include links and resources relevant to their LSMC, such as the LSMC website and Facebook page.

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:

Current USMS National Positions Held: Legislation Committee Vice Chair 2015 - Present:
Chair - Meg Smith

Previous USMS National Committee Positions Held: Legislation Committee Co Vice Chair 2015 - 2015: Chair - Meg Smith

Legislation Committee Member 2014 - 2015: Chair - Sean Fitzgerald

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

In 2010, I started to coach Masters regularly, and I was the only coach for the team at this pool. I grew the kids and masters program from about 6 to 90 swimmers in a year. I managed everything, billing, attendance, meets, meet entries, email, phone calls, complaints, socials, everything. I was running an entire swim team by myself.

In 2012, I became the Vice-Chair for the FGC LMSC. My biggest contributions to the LMSC were creating, and maintaining their social media pages on Facebook. And also completely updating the bylaws, which were about 8 years old at the time. I had to dig through 8 years of meeting minutes, and find every previous secretary to get all the missing minutes that I couldn't find online to make sure that every change that had been approved was in the bylaws.

In 2014, I joined the National Legislation Committee

In 2016, I joined the Futures Task Force, and have helped with research, and initiatives to get more younger swimmers involved with USMS.

In 2016, the NT LSMC elected me to be the Social Media Chair, and the Liaison to the National office for the USAS convention in Dallas TX.

In 2016, I became a Stroke and Turn judge for USA Swimming. Currently apprenticing as a Starter.

In 2017, I was elected as the Vice-Chair of the NT LMSC..

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am a USMS Level 4 certified coach and Kerry O'Brien Coaches award recipient.

I was selected to Head Coach for USMS at this year's World Masters Championship in Budapest Hungary.

I ran for a VP position before, and lost, but I realize my mistake, I should have gone by my middle name, Chris ;)

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

Welcome to Dallas!

To: Cheryl Gettelfinger Elections@usms.org
Cc: Richard Garza the.richard.garza@gmail.com
From: Tom Boak
Re: Letter of Nomination and Reference, Richard Garza
Vice President Administration

I would like to nominate Richard Garza for the position of U.S. Masters Swimming Vice President of Administration. Please also consider this as a Letter of Reference.

Although he is only 29, he has burst onto the scene over the past eight years and immersed himself in United States Masters Swimming. He is a competitor, a coach, is involved in the North Texas LMSC and USMS at the National level.

First as a competitor – 35 Individual and 16 Relay Top Ten Times, Relay All American

Second as a coach – Level 4 Certified Coach 2017, Masters Coach since 2009, currently Head Masters Coach for Texas Ford Aquatics; Kerry O'Brien Coaching Award 2014; On deck Coach at World Championships in Budapest 2017 and Pan American Championships in Medellin, Columbia 2015.

Third in his LMSC – North Texas LMSC Vice Chair and Newsletter Editor

Last with USMS at the National level – Futures Task Force (note that the Legacy Stars Program is his idea), Legislation Committee since 2013 and serving as Vice Chair, Convention delegate since 2013, Florida Gold Coast Vice Chair 2013-2015, attended USMS Leadership Summits in both 2015 and 2017.

As an organization, we talk all the time about the importance of getting young people involved in our sport. Richard is exactly what we are looking for – he is passionate about Masters Swimming and willing to get involved at every level. It is a sincere privilege to recommend him for this important USMS position.

From: Stuart Smith

Date: May 30, 2017

Subject: Recommendation Letter

To: The Elections Committee

I would like to submit a letter of recommendation in support of Richard Garza regarding the position of Vice President/Administration for United States Masters Swimming.

Richard has spent a number of years in various positions on local and national committees which would make him a logical choice for a V.P. role

Richard has been our Masters coach here for one year now. In that time, he has immersed himself into all areas of Masters Swimming. He has more than doubled membership on the team, and he has promoted the sport locally through clinics and competitions. He has also recently been named head coach for the World Championships this summer.

Through all these accomplishments, Richard has shown that he is organized, innovative and an excellent communicator.

Thank you,

Stuart Smith
Texas Ford Aquatics

Peter Guadagni - Candidate for Vice President of Administration



The Election Committee has deemed that Peter Guadagni 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Nadine Day* and received letters of recommendation from *Barry Fasbender* and *Jeanne Ensign* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes ____ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes ____ No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes ____ No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes ____ No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): ____ Yes ____ No X NA

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

I have attended every convention from 2010 through 2016. I was present for all HOD meetings at each convention.

Section Three: Questions

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

The joy I have received from Masters swimming, first as a fitness swimmer and more recently as a competitor, created a desire to give back to USMS. The Vice President of Administration position, with its oversight of the Championship, Legislation, Registration and Rules Committees

and place on the Board and Executive Committee, provides an opportunity to use my volunteer and professional experience to further serve the organization. As a certified official for over ten years, I understand the rules of our sport, how to apply them and the impact when they are changed. My three years on the Legislation Committee and experience leading the effort to reorganize the Pacific LMSC by laws taught me the importance of maintaining clear and concise governing documents. Having competed and officiated at multiple Nationals and served 6 times as Meet Director of the Pacific Masters Short Course Yards Championships (700 – 800 participants), I bring multiple perspectives to the challenges the Championship Committee faces. My supervision of Pacific's paid Registrars as the LMSC's chair and my use of USMS systems as the current Pacific sanction chair has familiarized me with our registration process and systems.

In addition to my qualifications for the VP of Administration position, I believe my skills and experience will make me an asset to the USMS leadership team. As a member of the Finance Committee, I regularly review the USMS budget, giving me exposure to the many programs on which our funds are deployed. Professionally I have lead and grown a regional marketing consulting group, was the executive in charge of a national information technology services and consulting operation, owned a small business, and currently manage a municipal electric and gas utility. These varied leadership experiences have taught me to respect what works but never stop looking for new solutions and opportunities.

Perhaps my most important attributes for this and every other position I have held are a desire to listen, a passion for continuous improvement, and an optimistic attitude – I tend to smile most of the time.

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?

With thousands passionate members, the future of USMS will never be in doubt. However, there are opportunities to make the organization more effective.

The national office along with USMS volunteer leadership has worked to create a strategic plan that is focused and compelling. Certainly, the USMS brand has never been stronger. However, the plans and programs could be improved with greater recognition that for most of our members, the Masters experience is limited to the deck and lanes of their local pool. If coaches and clubs don't embrace and implement USMS plans and programs, their impact will be limited. As a member of USMS leadership I will advocate for programs that respond to the needs of clubs and coaches and deliver value at the local level.

Another challenge relates to the changing nature of our membership and how they want to engage as volunteers. USMS depends on volunteers to perform many services that our members desire. As we continue the transition from an organization dominated by early USMS members to one in the hands of current and future generations, we must recognize the impact of societal changes. Student debt, increased housing costs, and delays in family formation can affect the desire and ability of younger generations to contribute their time. As a leader I will listen to every segment of our membership and collaborate with them to develop volunteer opportunities that work with their lives. I will also recognize when we need to change our service delivery models, from meet management to local communications, and help develop solutions that are consistent with volunteer availability.

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:

Legislation Committee, 2011 – 2013, Sean Fitzgerald Chair

Finance Committee, 2014 – present, Jeanne Ensign Chair

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

Team Captain, Walnut Creek Masters, 2007 – 2010

Chair, Pacific Masters Swimming, 2012 – 2015

Chair, Finance subcommittee on Sanction Fees, 2015

Member, planning committee for first LMSC Leadership Summit, 2015

Member, Finance subcommittee on Use of Reserves, 2016

Chair, Finance subcommittee on Budget and Fees, 2017

Pacific Masters Meet Operations and Sanction Coordinator, 2017

President, Walnut Creek Downtown Business Association, 2 years

Board member, Playhouse West (local theater group), 3 years

25 Years management experience at leadership levels

Please list any other information you would like included.

My proudest accomplishments relate to volunteer recognition; I have written the nomination letters for 9 Donnelly Award winners, 1 Fitness Award Winner, 1 Open Water Service Award Winner and 1 Krauser Award Winner and contributed to the nominations of 2 USMS Coach of the Year Winners and 1 Ransom Arthur Award Winner.

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

As your Vice President of Administration I will work with the Championship, Legislation, Registration and Rules Committees to assist in fulfilling their vital functions and challenge them to consider new ideas when appropriate. In my role as an Executive Committee member, my actions will be guided by the knowledge that, for most of our members, the Masters experience is limited to the confines of their local pool deck. As a Board member I will strive to listen to our members and help guide the organization in a direction that delivers value.

05/20/17

To Elections Committee

I, Nadine Day, nominate Peter Guadagni, for Vice President of Administration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nadine Day", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nadine Day

Date: May 20, 2017

To: The Elections Committee

Subject: Letter of Recommendation

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Peter Guadagni as Vice President of Administration for the U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors. His breadth of experience and skills make him an ideal candidate for this position. Peter will bring to the Board his experience and knowledge of USMS at many levels.

As Vice President of Administration, USMS will have the benefit of Peter's years of involvement in our organization. His approach to any project large or small is practical, ordered and forward-looking. He has the ability to question "the way we've always done it" with respect and in keeping with our best interests. As a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors his unique perspective and ability to work in a group setting will contribute to the continued growth of USMS.

I have known Peter for a number of years through convention and he currently serves on Finance Committee. Most recently he chaired a Subcommittee and under his leadership the Subcommittee produced a concise and well-reasoned report with recommendations up to and including proposed legislation.

Peter's passion for swimming and his dedication to our organization make him an ideal candidate for this position. It is my pleasure to recommend Peter as the next Vice President of Administration.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Ensign
USMS Finance Committee Chair
MT LMSC Chair

Recommendation Letter for Peter Guadagni

From: Barry Fasbender, Past Chair of Championship Committee

May 22, 2017

To: The Elections Committee

This letter of endorsement and support is being written because I can think of no one more qualified to serve as the US Masters Vice President of Administration than Peter Guadagni. Peter has vision, talents, expertise, and great experience in administering Masters swimming programs on the club level, the local LMSC level as chair of the 12,000+ Pacific Masters, and as a member of US Masters Legislation and Finance Committees. In his business life, he has managed a \$80 million company budget and currently administers a municipal electric and gas utility.

Peter is a man who embodies giving back to the organization that has enriched his life. He is an exceptional swimmer who has competed at every level we offer and has earned numerous Age Group Swimmer of the Year Awards, served as an official (Stroke & Turn, Starter, Head Referee at the PacMasters Championship Meet several times, and officiated at two US Masters National Championships), who gave back to his club as its team captain for four years and received the Walnut Creek Masters Bosco Award for Volunteer of the Year twice, as well as volunteered to be the Meet Director for six SCY Pacific Masters Championships, and guided Pacific Masters for four innovative years as its Chair. Pacific Masters has recognized Peter with its Distinguished Service Award, the Nancy Ridout Service Award (which under his leadership was named and elevated to the PacMasters highest award), and was given the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award by USMS.

Peter brought energy and new life to Pacific Masters during his tenure as chair. In addition to new programs and services, he undertook reorganizing the administration of Pacific Masters by replacing the traditional offices with a plan consisting of a number of elected officers and the committees for which they are responsible. Examples are Vice Presidents for Pool Meets, Open Water, Clubs and Coaches, and Communications and Technology, along with the traditional Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer. This has allowed innovation and new opportunities for volunteers to participate and give back.

Additionally, Peter has given back by totally restructuring the Pac Masters Annual Meeting to offer not only a required annual business meeting that attracted few members, but turning it into an annual celebration that also includes a workout, a tech talk, a catered lunch, and an inspirational keynote speaker (Rowdy Gaines, Janet Evans, Matt Biondi, Anthony Ervin, Dana Vollmer) all free of charge to our membership. Attendance at our annual meeting has gone from 30 to over 300.

Peter has served USMS at the national level as a member of the Legislation Committee and the Finance Committee, where he chaired two subcommittees and was a member of a third. He has been a convention delegate for seven years.

You can get a glimpse into Peter's character by his citing one of his proudest accomplishments which, he notes, is writing nomination letters for the volunteers who represent the LMSC and Masters swimming at its best. Peter is about leadership, empowerment, creativity, and fulfillment. He can be counted on to use all available resources to complete a task and to offer creative alternatives to the status quo. He will make an outstanding Vice-President of Administration for US Masters Swimming.

Sincerely,

Barry Fasbender

Jeff Strahota - Candidate for Vice President of Administration



The Election Committee has deemed that Jeff Strahota 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Jeff Roddin* and received letters of recommendation from *Rob Copeland* and *Ed Tsuzuki* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

I have attended all HOD meetings since 2008. This year will be my 10th Convention:

2008 (Atlanta), 2009 (Chicago), 2010 (Dallas), 2011 (Jacksonville), 2012 (Greensboro),
2013 (Anaheim), 2014 (Jacksonville), 2015 (Kansas City), 2016 (Atlanta)

Section Three: Questions

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

Despite being a younger member of USMS, I have been involved in volunteering with the organization for over a decade and had a variety of relevant experiences.

Experience: I've served on a variety of committees (Marketing, LMSC Development, and Championship) and thanks to my wife, have sat in the next room for many Rules calls. With Championship and Rules being two of the four committees which the VP of Administration oversees, and Legislation being akin enough to Rules, I won't need much assistance getting up to speed.

Under-40: I'll be nearing my 20th year associated with USMS, but unlike most veterans with membership this lengthy, I'll be a member of the under-40 demographic, something not historically receiving too much representation – if any – at this level. Not only was the experience of being a young USMS member still fresh in my mind, but being at a major university, I am continually a first-hand witness to the challenges facing my peers and our younger members.

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?

The number one issue I see is that our membership is getting older and we do not have a large volume of replacement members behind them.

I think our present Executive Director is on the right track with the College Club Swimming initiative to help build that **partnership** and **brand awareness**. I'd want to continue to guide and develop this so that we have a continued pipeline to future members.

Also, this speaks to our need for **innovations**. Like the strategy pillar with the same name, this is not only innovating our event offerings, but also ensuring the way we do business, both internally and externally, is continually evolving to meet all the needs of our wide demographic. I'd like to see our organization move with more speed, operate more simply and with more transparency. This will benefit all of our membership – making things easy for everyone will

Looking over Rules, Legislation, Registration, and Championship, I could help make evolutions and innovations in these spaces reality.

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:

Marketing (2009, Chair Chris McGiffin)

LMSC Development (2010-2015, Chairs Doug Adamavich and Paige Buehler)

Colonies Zone Chair (2011-2015)

Championship (2010-present, Chair Jeff Roddin)

Potomac Valley LMSC Chairman, 2015-present, 2009-2013

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

Professionally, I work for Claritas, a marketing company specializing in consumer segmentation. We help our clients find the best customers most likely to purchase their product/service based on their behaviors. Instead of putting a flyer on every car in the parking lot, we tell you the only black and gold Volvos are most likely to buy your product, and help you find those targets. My specific responsibility is as a Product Manager, and am responsible for turning our syndicated research survey data into our segmentation profiles, responsible for everything from how the product is produced, team coordination and scheduling, and how the product is ultimately consumed by clients.

Please list any other information you would like included.

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

I've been swimming with my masters group since I started college in 1998, and a USMS member since 1999. After finishing school, I began donating my time back to my team and then our LMSC; and since the 2008 convention, to our national organization. I look forward to continuing to serve this organization I love, and look forward to the opportunity to represent our under-40 demographic on our organization's board.

May 25, 2017

Attention USMS Elections Committee:

I am writing to nominate Jeffrey Strahota to the position of Vice President of Administration.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Roddin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

--

Jeff Roddin | Registrar | Potomac Valley LMSC | U.S. Masters Swimming

May 31, 2017

TO: Election Committee and USMS House of Delegates

RE: Recommendation of Jeff Strahota as Vice President of Administration

It is my honor to write this letter of recommendation for Jeff Strahota as U.S. Masters Swimming Vice President of Administration.

I believe Jeff possesses the critical skills, aptitude and experience to serve as a member of our Executive Committee and the USMS leadership team. Jeff has been an active and effective leader in the Potomac Valley for over a decade, serving as LMSC chair as well as other volunteer positions.

Jeff has also been an engaged member of the USMS House of Delegates since 2008. During this time Jeff has served as an active member of the LMSC Development and Championship committees.

Beyond his institutional knowledge and leadership, Jeff is a role model of volunteer spirit. Jeff has demonstrated his willingness to step up and serve, his ability to listen to others, his talent for making informed decisions and his passion for giving back to swimming. I am confident this spirit will continue to shine as Jeff steps up to the next level of service leadership.

I believe Jeff will be active and committed to promoting health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming and keeping USMS the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the United States.

I recommend Jeff without reservation to serve as our next Vice President of Administration.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert H Copeland". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rob Copeland

The USMS Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

From: Ed Tsuzuki, Vice President of Administration
Date: May 21, 2017
Subject: Letter of Recommendation

To: The Elections Committee:

I am pleased to recommend Jeff Strahota as a candidate for the office of Vice President of Administration.

Jeff has held several volunteer leadership roles within USMS at both the local and zone level as well as been an active member of several committees since 2009. Jeff is currently the chair of the Potomac Valley LMSC (since 2015, having also served as chair from 2009 to 2012 and vice-chair from 2013-2014) and has also been the Colonies Zone Chair (2011-2015). Jeff serves on the Championship Committee and has also been on the LMSC Development and Marketing committees at the national level. Jeff has a long history with USMS and has been recognized by his teammates on the UMAC/Terrapin Masters club as a 2016 recipient of the Peter Moyer Character Award and in 2017 with the Pursuit of the Mission Award. Clearly, Jeff has tremendous enthusiasm for U.S. Masters Swimming and has demonstrated his commitment to serving the organization with his many years of volunteer contributions.

While I have had limited direct interaction with Jeff, I have experienced Jeff's leadership and participation at the USMS annual meetings (HOD, Zone, Committee) and am pleased to recommend Jeff for an Executive Committee position.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ed Tsuzuki', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ed Tsuzuki

This letter may be used publicly in the nomination process.

Skip Thompson - Candidate for Vice President of Community Services



The Election Committee has deemed that Skip Thompson 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate is running for reelection and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or letters of recommendation.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

Attended all from 1988 to Present.

Section Three: Questions

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

I have been a USMS member for 36 years and have served as an Officer at the Club and LMSC level for 35 years. I have been a National delegate and active committee member for 29 years. I served as a member of the USMS Board of Directors for 8 years, from 1992 through 1999. I have held every elected position in the Michigan LMSC except Registrar. During my tenure with USMS I have been a Swimmer, Coach, Event Host, Meet Director, Official, and Championship Liaison; all of which gives me experience to address the issues and opportunities that best serve our membership.

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?

A major issue is the transition from a volunteer lead organization to one in which the Chief Executive Officer and the National Office staff perform operational duties and manage the day to day affairs of USMS. How do we most appropriately balance the workload between staff and the volunteer base? How rapidly should we transfer duties from the volunteers to staff? And, in the future years, does USMS envision itself someday as having the majority of volunteer positions become staff positions? How do the LMSCs and Committees fit into this structure? In the future a balance of volunteer and staff functions must be determined for the overall health of the organization. USMS is dealing with this now and this is one of the main issues to be resolved in the next 5 years.

The growth and survival of Open Water Swimming is, and continues to be, a major issue. In the last 5 years the increase in open water events insurance have created Open Water surcharges for USMS, LMSCs, and host Clubs. This has definitely impacted the vigor and growth of Open Water Swimming (that has been a tradition in USMS). The BOD Task forces and the Open Water and Long Distance Committees are working hard to take USMS Open Water to the next level but we as an organization need to solve this problem because it is not going away.

Another major issue that impacts the future success of USMS (and even the LMSC) is the development of programs for the large part of our membership that does not participate in competition. As an organization, we have a commitment to provide programs in fitness for these members. Membership retention and growth are two areas that are critical to the future health of USMS. The provision of these programs will ensure that we can deliver a valued product, the worth of which can best be reflected by our members' continuing support and membership.

USMS should become more involved and have successful interaction with other bodies such as the YMCA, NSG, FINA, USA-S, USAT, Health Clubs, Fitness Centers, and Park Departments. Our involvement with these organizations could carry USMS to the next level in membership and allow our many resources to be utilized by a much larger constituency.

In addition to developing programs that will increase our membership, we have to continue to expand our marketing concepts to broaden our financial base so that we do not rely strictly on registration, club, and program fees to run our organization. Support of corporate sponsors who have sought to assist us as loyal partners needs to be continued and explored in the future.

We need to ensure effective communication between all levels of the organization from the National Office to LMSCs and the LMSCs to the members. The development of effective lines of communication with LMSCs and their respective members is imperative. The LMSC Development Committee's peer to peer conference call meetings is a tremendous start for the LMSCs in the different operation functions as well as the two LMSC Summits that have taken place in the last 3 years. The BOD, National Office, and the LMSCs must be partners in achieving the goals of the 5 year strategic plan for that to be a success.

Another major issue I see is the lack of enough younger and newer volunteer talent to contribute at both the local and national level. This is very important because these individuals will be the leaders of USMS in future. If we do not achieve this, it will become increasingly difficult to acquire adequate leadership for future success of USMS.

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:

Championship Committee – 1989 to 1993 Bill Barthold. Zone Committee – 1992 to 1995 Betsy Durrant, 1996 – 1997 Stephanie Walsh Beilman, 1998 – 1999 Hugh Moore. Planning Committee – 1994 to 1995 Stephanie Walsh Beilman, 1996 – 2000 Nancy Miller, 2001 Betsy Durant. Ad Hoc Professional Management Committee 1998 – 1999 Hugh Moore, Coaches Committee 2000 – 2001, Scott Rabalais, 2002 – 2003, Michael Collins, 2004 – 2006 Bob Bruce, 2007 Mo Chambers. Rules Committee 2008 – 2011 Kathy Casey. Legislation Committee 2012 – 2013 Sean Fitzgerald, 2014 – 2015 Meg Smath. History and Archives Committee 2013 – 2015 Megan Wilson. USMS BOD Executive Committee as VP of Coaches, Fitness Education, Sports Medicine Science Committees 2015 – 2017 Patty Miller.

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

LMSC Responsibilities

1987 - 1991 - Treasurer of the Michigan LMSC
1989 - 1991 - Vice Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
1991 - 1993 - Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
1993 - 1995 - Fitness Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
1993 - 1997 - Records & Top Ten Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
1999 - 2001 - Secretary of the Michigan LMSC
2001 - 2003 - Vice Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
2003 - 2005 - Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
2005 - 2013 - Sanctions Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
2009 - 2013 - Officials Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
2010 - 2013 - Records & Top Ten Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
1984 - 2015 - Coach - Team Representative of the Michigan Masters Club
2013 - 2015 - Vice Chairman of the Michigan LMSC
2015 - 2017 - Chairman of the Michigan LMSC

Meet Administration

Meet Director – Michigan Masters State Championship Meet – 1985, 1989, 1992, 1996, 1997, 1999, 2002, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008, 2013, 2015, and 2016.
Meet Director - Great Lakes Zone Championship Meet - 1988 LCM, 1990 SCM, and 1997 SCY.
Meet Director - Local SCY South Oakland Seals Swim Team Meet - 1984 - 2017
Meet Director – Local LCM Meet – 1984 – Present

National Championships Meet Administration

Records/Top Ten National Liaison - 1996 USMS Long Course Nationals – University of Michigan

USMS Championship Committee - Served as a Meet Evaluator/Liaison for the following USMS National Championships - 1990 SC Nationals USC Los Angeles, 1991 LC Nationals Elizabethtown KY, 1992 LC Nationals Federal Way, WA and 1993 LC Nationals, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN.

USMS Rules Committee – Served as a Rules Evaluator/Liaison for the following USMS National Championships - 2008 SC Nationals, University of Texas, Austin, 2009 LC Nationals, IUPUI Indianapolis, 2010 SC Nationals, Georgia Tech University, Atlanta, and 2011 SC Nationals, Mesa, Arizona.

Coaching – Team Accomplishments

Coach/Team Representative of the South Oakland Seals from 1984 until 2008. Responsible for administrating workouts 12 months a year. The team has been Michigan Masters State Champions 15 times (82, 85, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 00, 02) more than any other team in Michigan Masters history.

Coach/Team Representative of the Plymouth YMCA from 1988 until 2009. Overall Team Combined National YMCA Champions (1993). Men's National YMCA Championships (1993) and Women's National YMCA Champions (1994).

Coach/Team Representative of the Michigan Masters Club from 1984 until the Present. 1996 USMS Long Course National Champions in Women, Men, and Combined Categories. 2002 USMS Long Course Nationals - Highest Scoring Visiting Club in Women, Men, and Combined Categories. 2004 USMS Short Course Nationals – Women's National Champions. 2009 USMS Long Course Nationals – Regional Club National Champions. 2013 USMS Short Course Nationals – Regional Club National Champions. 2014 Canadian National Championships - Highest scoring Club in the meet. 2015 USMS Long Course Nationals – Regional Club National Champions.

Committee Projects Assignments and Accomplishments

Championships Committee – USMS Time Standards for National Championship Meets.

Planning and Zone Committee - USMS Election Survey for National Officers.

Great Lakes Zone – Implemented a Zone Championship Meet for all 3 courses.

History and Archives Committee – Contributed as a key member in the early stages of the project.

Coaches Committee - Chair of the USMS Coach of the Year subcommittee from 2001 – 2008.

National Board Review – 2011 Served on the Grievance Panel.

Achieved Level 4 USMS Certification – April 2015.

Selected to serve as a Coach for the 2015 USMS High Performance Camp in Greensboro, North Carolina.

USMS and Michigan Masters Achievement Awards

1987 - Received the YMCA Service Award from the Greater Detroit Metropolitan YMCA.

1991 - Received the Chetrick Award for Outstanding Service to the Michigan LMSC.

1995 - Received the Lawrence Award for Outstanding Swimming Performances in the Michigan LMSC.

1999 - Received the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award for Outstanding Service to USMS.

2000 - Received the USMS National Coach of the Year Award from the USMS Coaches Committee.

2010 - Received the USMS Kerry O'Brien Coaching Award from the USMS Coaches Committee.

2011 - Received the Michigan Masters Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan LMSC.

2011 - Received the USMS Club of the Year as part of the Michigan Masters Club as Coaches Rep.

2013 - Received the Michigan Masters Coach of the Year Award at the LMSC Awards Banquet.

2014 - Received the USMS June Krauser Communications Award from USMS Awards Committee

Please list any other information you would like included.

Longest tenured LMSC Volunteer at both the Local and National level in the Michigan LMSC. I have been a Meet Director of the Michigan LMSC State Championships on 14 different occasions. This meet has the largest participation per registered swimmer in the LMSC than any meet in USMS. I, along with Sally Guthrie, initiated one of the most comprehensive LMSC Awards Banquets in USMS. The primary Award given at the banquet is the Continuous Loyalty Membership Award where LMSC members are honored for their continuous loyalty by renewing their LMSC membership for continuous years. Awards are given for 5 to 30 years of membership and swimmers are eligible for awards at 5, 10, 15 20, 25, and 30 years. I organized two stroke clinics with the 2013 NCAA Championship University of Michigan Men's team that featured Mike Bottom and his Olympic-caliber coaches. With 72 swimmers, it was the largest sanctioned clinic that the Michigan LMSC has ever held.

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

I am excited to have the opportunity to run as an incumbent for the position of Vice President of Community Services. My membership in USMS for 36 years and my involvement as a volunteer at the USMS and LMSC level for over 33 years qualifies me to help lead USMS in the future. USMS faces a lot of challenges in the future and I believe I can be an asset to helping USMS address those challenges. USMS has shown great initiative in creating new programs, but will need to continue to create and expand programs to offer new opportunities for adult swimming. Under the leadership of both CEO Dawson Hughes and President Patty Miller, USMS has made great progress to achieve the goal to become the best adult aquatic fitness organization in the world. USMS is a great organization and has greatly added to my quality of life. I want to give back to this organization that has given me so much. I have worked with many outstanding volunteers and USMS Staff in the past and want continue to help build USMS to be the best primary fitness organization in the country. I look forward to helping to promote USMS's mission and values in the future.

Chris Colburn - Candidate for Vice President of Local Operations



The Election Committee has deemed that Chris Colburn 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Jeanne Seidler* and received a letter of recommendation from *Tim Waud* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

Dearborn, MI (September 13-17, 2006)
Anaheim, CA (September 26-30, 2007)
Atlanta, GA (September 24-28, 2008)
Chicago, IL (September 16-20, 2009)
Dallas, TX (September 15-19, 2010)
Jacksonville, FL (September 14-18, 2011)
Greensboro, NC (September 12-16, 2012)
Anaheim, CA (September 11-15, 2013)
Jacksonville, FL (September 17-21, 2014)
Kansas City, MO (September 30 – October 4, 2015)
Atlanta, GA (September 21-25, 2016)

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in the office of Vice President of Local Operations because I firmly believe in giving back to the sport that has had such a positive impact on my life. Besides the obvious health and wellness benefits of swimming, Masters Swimming has afforded me lasting friendships and an extended family of like-minded individuals who are passionate about participating in and giving back to the sport we love. I have been and would continue to be honored to serve among their ranks.

Apart from the experience gained in my two terms as Secretary, I believe I would make a good candidate because I maintain a deep interest in both the strategic plan and the operational workings of U.S. Masters Swimming.

I believe I will be a good candidate because I am passionate about our products and services, as well as our LMSCs' abilities to provide unique local perspectives to contribute to and deliver those products and services to their membership. I have formed good working relationships with many members of both the volunteer and staff leadership that can facilitate collaboration between the local and national levels to strengthen and evolve the LMSCs and the committees that work with them for the benefit of our members.

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?

In recent years, we have worked to grow the membership through a two approaches that focus on attracting new members and retaining those who have already joined us. As we further develop this strategy, I think we need to strike a consistent balance between what we do to attract new members and what we do to retain existing ones, and find better ways to do that simultaneously, not only through the National Office, but throughout the organization. This balance of initiatives will help USMS to grow more consistently.

As USMS grows, we must evolve along with our changing membership. As a strategic leadership body, the Board, in conjunction with the National Office, needs to pay attention to data related to membership numbers, trends in event and program attendance, and other key indicators to ensure that we can both listen to our membership and allocate resources (both human and financial) toward those areas that will best serve our membership.

An important step in that evolution comes with it the evolution of the volunteer infrastructure. The Futures Task Force, of which I am a member, has looked at our aging volunteer base, and strives to find new and better ways to engage both new and veteran volunteers, while adapting the roles of our volunteers to those that can focus more on brand advocacy and membership services. As our membership evolves at both the local and national levels, some of our infrastructure must begin to change to support that shift in focus. As Vice President of Local Operations, I want to better define what that shift can and should look like at the LMSC and National levels so we continue to attract and engage ALL our volunteers to promote and support USMS at every level of the organization.

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:

Board of Directors:

- Secretary, September 2013 – present (Nadine Day, President 2013-15; Patty Miller, President 2015 - present)

Coaches Committee:

- 2000 (Scott Rabalais, Chair)
- 2007 – May 2008 (Vice Chair; Mo Chambers, Chair)
- June 2008 – 2010 (Chair; Chuck Burr, Scott Bay, Kerry O'Brien, Vice Chairs)
- 2011 (Craig Keller, Chair)

Registration Committee:

- 2014 (Leo Letendre, Chair)

Legislation Committee

- 2016 (Meg Smath, Chair)

Rules Committee

- 2017 (Charles Cockrell, Chair)

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

- Head Coach, Delaware Swim Team Old Dawgs, 1996-1999
- Pilot Coordinator, Colonies Zone Regional On-Deck Coaching Program, 1999
- USMS On-Deck Coaching Coordinator, 2000, 2007-2010
- Illinois LMSC Vice Chair, 2005-2009
- Illinois LMSC Webmaster/IT Director, 2005-2011
- Head Coach, Academy Bullets Masters, 2006-present
- USMS Club Development Task Force, 2008-2009
- Illinois LMSC Chair, 2009-2011
- Illinois LMSC/ILMSA Coach of the Year, 2009
- USMS Kerry O'Brien Coaching Award, 2009
- USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award, 2009
- Allegheny Mountain LMSC Vice-Chair, 2011
- USMS Discussion Forums Task Force, 2014
- USMS Discussion Forums Moderator, 2014-present
- USMS Futures Task Force, 2016-present
- USMS Convention Rules Task Force, 2016-present

Please list any other information you would like included.

When I'm not hanging out with my kids, coaching, swimming, or working with technology, my hobbies include driving (especially Mustangs); cycling (on- and off-road); watching sci-fi (*Dr. Who* and *Continuum* are current favorites); checking out new and different eateries; and NEVER wearing a red shirt on an away mission.

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

In addition to coaching Masters swimmers in four LMSCs over 27 years, I have volunteered at the local, regional, and national levels in three different LMSCs since 1998. Most recently, I am finishing my second term as USMS Secretary. I have given back to Masters Swimming wherever possible in coaching, leadership, and communications-related roles, and hope to continue to do so as the next Vice President of Local Operations. I have a deep interest in the strategic and operational workings of U.S. Masters Swimming at both the local and the National

levels. Further, am interested in helping USMS evolve as an organization that can support, promote, and change as needed for its ever-growing and ever-changing membership. My experiences with technology, linguistics, and coaching have given me the organizational, communications, collaborative, and strategic thinking skills to succeed in this position. If I am elected, I will continue to work with all levels of our staff and volunteer infrastructure to bring about a better future for our sport and our membership.

From: Jeanne Seidler

Date: April 28, 2017

Subject: Combined Letter of Nomination and Recommendation for USMS Vice President of Local Operations
Candidate, Christopher M. Colburn, Illinois LMSC

To: The Elections Committee

By this letter, it is my pleasure to nominate USMS member, Christopher M. Colburn, as a candidate for the position of USMS Vice President of Local Operations.

By this letter, also, I am recommending and endorsing Christopher M. Colburn for the subject position. This recommendation is based on my long term association and experience with Chris through the community and camaraderie of U.S. Masters Swimming.

Chris' accomplishments in USMS and coaching are extensive as summarized in this nomination packet.

What my recommendation emphasizes the human side that makes Chris a great candidate for almost any position in USMS. It has been my observation that Chris is truly interested in not only the future of U.S. Masters Swimming on the national level but he is also interested in applying the grass roots efforts to coach and keep swimmers interested on the local level. While the national level develops the programs for coaches and swimmers to follow, the local level is where the programs are executed. Chris is a master of execution. It takes a lot of effort and energy to coach, to swim, to take the swimmers to meets and encourage the swimmers to try new events. And then this effort is multiplied by all the different levels of swimmers in the club. Chris handles everything so well that he makes it look easy to wear multiple hats that range from the VP on a national level to coach and swimmer on the local level.

For his limitless energy to develop the concept on the national level and follow through to the very important execution on the local level, I'm pleased to both nominate and recommend Chris for the position of USMS Vice President of Local Operations.

Sincerely,

Jeanne Seidler
Chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee

From: Tim Waud, Chair/President Oregon Masters Swimming

Date: April 29, 2017

Subject Line: Letter of Recommendation for Chris Colburn, Vice President of Local Operations

To: The Elections Committee

I am writing this letter of recommendation to support Chris Colburn for the position Vice President of Local Operations for U.S. Masters Swimming. I have known Chris since we first met at the 2008 U.S. Masters Swimming Summer National Championship in Gresham, Oregon. My first impression of Chris was that of pure passion for the sport of Masters swimming. Chris was very friendly, easy to talk to, and we quickly developed a friendship that has lasted nearly ten years.

On the local level, Chris has worked tirelessly as a swim coach in many capacities. Not only has he worked hard developing his workout group the Academy Bullets Masters, Chris has a variety of experience coaching at the high school and collegiate level. This is a valuable asset to Chris as USMS is looking to reach this demographic and increase our younger generation membership.

Chris has an outstanding record of leadership at the LMSC level. He served as a LMSC Chair and Vice Chair in his LMSC, Chris has gained extensive knowledge on how to govern an LMSC. Having been a LMSC Chair and Vice-chair, I know the time and dedication needed to work with a board of directors, and provide the services our members desire. These key leadership positions are vital to the stability of a successful LMSC and to USMS as a whole.

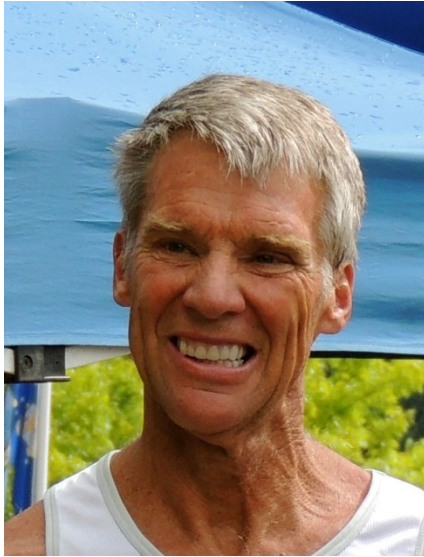
On the USMS national level, Chris has experience in a wide variety of committee and task force appointments. Having attended the last ten consecutive USAS conventions, he has volunteered for numerous committees including: rules, futures task force, legislation, discussion forms, registration, and club development. Chris has done an excellent job as Secretary for USMS. I have submitted and amended many meeting minutes at USAS and Chris has posted and re-posted my submissions within minutes of receiving those documents.

Chris is an outstanding leader in many capacities. He has the knowledge and the ambition to be a successful candidate for the VPLO position. His passion for Masters swimming is infectious, and I always look forward to seeing him at Nationals or the annual USAS Convention. Chris is always willing and able to help me understand the mechanics of USMS and how it operates. This in turn, is an asset to our membership, a representative who is always there to listen and voice the concerns of those he represents. Please consider Chris Colburn when you want a representative who is always available, eager to help, and punctual when it comes to getting things done.

Sincerely yours,

Tim Waud
Chair/President Oregon Masters Swimming

Donn Livoni - Candidate for Vice President of Programs



The Election Committee has deemed that Donn Livoni 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Jeanne Ensign* and received letters of recommendation from *Bob Bruce* and *Chris McGiffin* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

2007 (Anaheim)	2012 (Greensboro)
2008 (Atlanta)	2013 (Anaheim)
2009 (Chicago)	2014 (Jacksonville)
2010 (Dallas)	2015 (Kansas City)
2011 (Jacksonville)	2016 (Atlanta)

Section Three: Questions

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

USMS has allowed me to give back to the swimming community through volunteer service. I have served on two of the three committees that the VP of Programs serves. I believe that my

commitment to USMS and servant leadership will be an asset to future growth and development of USMS.

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?

The USMS Strategic Plan (Sept. 25, 2016) is our guide to addressing the major issues USMS faces as it continues to grow and develop.

Of particular interest to me is the Brad Clarity topic. To paraphrase the late Tip O'Neil, "All swimming is local". Each USMS member/volunteer needs to be an ambassador for the organization at their local pool. The word-of-mouth communication is vital to the continued growth of USMS. This is connected to the Membership Value strategy. The organization must reach the large percentage of adults who are swimming, mainly for health and fitness, and provide programs and services that match their needs and interests.

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:

Open Water/Long Distance (2008-2010) Marcia Cleveland
Long Distance, vice chair (2010-2012) Heather Hagadorn
Long Distance (2012–present) Donn Livoni
Open Water, ex-officio (2012-present) Lynn Hazelwood & Bob Bruce
Championship, ex-officio (2015-present) Jeff Rodin

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

Professional, I have served a variety of school districts in administrative positions (Principal & Superintendent). Additionally, I have worked with and/or served on numerous civic and non-profit boards, e.g., School Boards, Chamber of Commerce & Kiwanis. In the swimming community, I have coached age group and Masters (Level 1 & 2 certified), served as LMSC Chair and held other LMSC positions for 8 years, currently serving as acting chair of the Montana Masters Swim Club. I also served on the Open Water Insurance Task Force in 2012-2013.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I first joined USMS in 1982 at the encouragement of Sally Dillon. I have participated in pool, Open Water and ePostal National Championships, as well as being a committed fitness swimmer. I am a member of USAT and have served on an USAT Regional Council. In my roles as an educational leader and committee chair I have been a problem solver and consensus builder, always looking for common ground to achieve positive outcomes.

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

As the VP of Programs I would bring a deep knowledge of the committees I serve. My commitment to USMS volunteerism and my passion for swimming in general is congruent with the duties and responsibilities of the position. Additionally, my professional background and experience as a servant leader will add value to the Board of Directors, Executive Council and membership as a whole.

Date: April 25, 2017

To: The Elections Committee

Subject: Letter of Nomination

It is my honor and privilege to nominate Donn Livoni for the position of Vice President of Programs of U.S. Masters Swimming.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Ensign

USMS Finance Committee Chair

MT LMSC Chair

April 17, 2017

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter supports Donn Livoni's nomination for the USMS Board of Directors as Vice President of Programs. I believe that Donn is an outstanding candidate for such a position.

I have known and worked with Donn for a long time. For a three-year stint in the early 2000s, Donn lived in Bend, worked as a local school principal, and swam on my team (yes, he is coachable!). We became good friends, and after he moved away I was delighted when he resurfaced as a convention delegate, then as the Chair for the Montana LMSC. Donn began serving with me on the Long Distance/Open Water Committee in 2008, continued serving on the Long Distance Committee when the committees split in 2010, and became LDC chair in 2012, a position that he still fills today. As LDC Chair, he also sits *ex-officio* on the Open Water Committee, on which I have also served since 2010 and chaired since 2015. We have worked closely together a long time; I have his phone number on speed-dial and use it frequently.

Donn brings great strengths to these positions:

- He is passionately committed to USMS at all levels, having served his LMSC as Chair as well as USMS as a national committee chair. He is also deeply committed to the sport of swimming in general, and participates in pool, postal, and open water events frequently.
- After eight full years of service, he understands intimately the mission and work of both the LDC and OWC, two committees with whom he would work closely as VP of Programs.
- He has the vision to see both the forest and the trees. He has the great quality of keeping the big picture in mind while remembering and working on the smallest details.
- He has strong leadership skills. He keeps high standards, and gently encourages others to work with him to meet those standards. He has excellent personal and mediating skills.
- He has strong management skills. His ability to organize is first rate. He is always well prepared, communicates openly, and delegates responsibilities well so that everyone around him can shine.
- He always keeps a level head and a cheerful disposition in all circumstances, a priceless personal quality.
- He is successful. His committee works very well indeed!

My only concern with Donn's candidacy is finding a placement for LDC Chair who has an equivalent vision and skill set. I really enjoy working with him.

Please consider Donn Livoni to be an outstanding candidate for this Board of Directors position. If you have other questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



Bob Bruce
Chair, USMS Open Water Committee

From: Chris McGiffin, NJ LMSC and current VP Programs

Date: April 24, 2017

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Donn Livoni

To: The Elections Committee

I am writing to recommend Donn Livoni as a candidate for the USMS Executive Committee position of Vice President of Programs.

I have served closely with Donn at the national level for the last four years, and I know him to be a passionate USMS member and volunteer leader who has dedicated a great amount of time, energy and enthusiasm to the mission of our organization and the members we serve. I believe Donn has the necessary skills and experience to lead our programs division.

Donn is serving in his sixth year as Chair of the USMS Long Distance committee, and also serves as ex-officio on the Open Water and Championship committees. Donn served on the Open Water Insurance Task Force in 2012-13 and was a recipient of a 2014 USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award.

At the local level, Donn is the acting Chair of the Montana Masters Club and served on the subcommittee that successfully updated the Montana LMSC by-laws. Over the years, Donn has also served the Montana LMSC as Chair, Secretary, Coaches Chair, Officials Chair, Open Water Chair, and Long Distance Chair.

Donn is a Level 2 Certified USMS Coach and is in the process of pursuing Level 3 as well as his certification to be a USA Swimming Official (Stroke & Turn and Starter).

Finally, to round out his athletic and volunteer resume, Donn has been a member of USA Triathlon for the past 30 years and has achieved USAT All-America recognition. He has also volunteered his time on the Pacific Northwest Regional USAT Council.

I feel confident that Donn will be a strong advocate for his committees and a exceptional addition to the leadership team as USMS VP of Programs.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Chris McGiffin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chris" and last name "McGiffin" clearly legible.

Chris McGiffin, USMS VP Programs

PS. The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

Greg Danner - Candidate for Secretary



The Election Committee has deemed that Greg Danner 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Chris McGiffin* and received letters of recommendation from *Jeanne Seidler* and *Chris Stevenson* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

2010 – Dallas

2011 – Jacksonville

2012 – Greensboro

2013 – Anaheim

2014 – Jacksonville

2016 – Atlanta

Section Three: Questions

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

The Secretary role is the perfect opportunity for me to learn more about USMS and simultaneously give back to a group that has been a great source of inspiration. I enjoy observing and participating in group discussions in all matters related to swimming.

I would be a good candidate because I am experienced with digital storage and organization. I am quick to respond to all forms of correspondence (email, text, phone). I am comfortable researching and working with emerging technologies. As the former Records & Tabulation Vice Chair, I recorded meeting minutes for three consecutive years. I am familiar with submitting the minutes to the Secretary and the associated responsibilities of the position. As LMSC Chair, I implemented the USMS Meeting Minutes template for our local meetings back in 2013.

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?

The 2017 LMSC Leadership Summit identified several of the major issues that USMS faces. After hearing from the various LMSC leaders around the country, it became clear that many of these challenges are consistent no matter where we live:

- Our volunteers continue to be one of our best assets, but we can always strive for improvement and smooth transitions. We are on the right track with the LMSC Standards and training documentation, but they will require regular assessment and fine-tuning. I would like to address this issue by adding more opportunities for volunteer interaction and training. If we are to successfully implement the USMS Strategic Plan at the local level, this will be necessary.
- Membership value for all types of existing and prospective members. As a competitive swimmer, I applaud USMS for all the opportunities that they provide. But, we must do a better job serving fitness members (our silent majority) and improve our diversity outreach. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, I will support measures to expand clinic programs and ALTS.
- Brand clarity: USMS shared market research indicating most fitness swimmers were not aware of USMS or the purpose of the organization. I have come across many such individuals during lap swim at various facilities in New York. Although we have a strong online presence at the national level, we must assist our LMSCs in furthering our spread of information. Where USMS might seem abstract to prospective members, the LMSC website and social media fill in to connect that member locally. This becomes increasingly important with every passing year, as younger generations use technology more than the generation before them. I want USMS to be able to offer more resources for LMSCs creating and maintaining their online presence.

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:

Records and Tabulation 2011-2012 (Chris Stevenson - Chair)

Records and Tabulation Vice Chair 2012-2014 (Chris Stevenson - Chair)

Records and Tabulation Vice Chair 2014-2015 (Jeanne Seidler - Chair)

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

Attended the 2017 LMSC Leadership Summit

Niagara LMSC Chair (2011 – current). As LMSC Chair, I introduced Policies and Procedures documentation and oversaw changes to bylaws. I helped lead our LMSC to all-time highs in membership and the most number of local swim meets and clinics each year.

Niagara LMSC Webmaster/Social Media Director (2010 – current). I have performed two website redesigns during my tenure. Our current website (www.niagaramasters.org) is a mobile friendly platform. I created our Facebook page and post content several times per week.

Niagara LMSC Top Ten Recorder (2011-2014). I trained the incoming TTR as I was outgoing.

Niagara LMSC Records (2010-2012)

Niagara LSC Athlete Rep (2010-current)

Niagara LSC Board of Review (2011-2014)

USMS Certified Coach (Level I and II)

15 years as IT professional (currently a Director of IT)

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am getting married in late August, so I will be coming to the convention right after the honeymoon! We are the proud parents of two rescue cats: Brewster and Trixie.

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 member of USMS since 2006, attending meets at all levels (local, regional, national, and international) during that time. I began volunteering in 2010, became the Chair the following year, and started serving on a national committee at the same time. I want to help keep USMS on task and guide the organization through the changes we need to succeed.

From: Chris McGiffin, NJ LMSC and current VP Programs
Date: April 27, 2017

Re: Letter of Nomination for Greg Danner

To: The Elections Committee

It is my pleasure to nominate Greg Danner as a candidate for the USMS Executive Committee position of Secretary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Chris McGiffin", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chris McGiffin, USMS VP Programs

PS. The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

From: Jeanne Seidler
262-894-0613

Date: April 28, 2017

Subject: Recommendation for USMS Secretary Position
Candidate, Gregory M. Danner, Niagara LMSC

To: The Elections Committee

By this letter, I am recommending Gregory M. Danner to the position of USMS Secretary. This recommendation is based upon my association and experience with Greg while he was the Vice Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee during my tenure as the Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee.

During the two years (2014 & 2015) that Greg was the Vice Chair, he did an excellent job of capturing the minutes of the RT Committee conference calls. He published the first draft of the minutes within a day or two of the call. During the calls, even with conversations occurring quickly on multiple topics, Greg was still able to participate in the calls with valued discussions while capturing the essence of the calls for the minutes.

I believe it is vital for USMS to include the upcoming generation of swimmers in the volunteer executive structure. Greg will bring the viewpoint of the millennial generation into discussions which is important for increasing the understanding of how to attract and engage the newest members in U.S. Masters Swimming.

For these points, I'm pleased to recommend Greg for the position of USMS Secretary.

Sincerely,

Jeanne E. Seidler
Chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee

I am writing this letter in strong support of the **Greg Danner** for the office of Secretary of USMS. When I was chair of the Records and Tabulation committee, Greg was my vice chair for three years. During that time he was responsible for keeping minutes for all of our meetings, and he did so in a very prompt and efficient manner. Greg's technical savvy was also quite apparent in our committee discussions, and his background in IT would serve him very well as Secretary.

Greg has been a consistent and committed volunteer for USMS for quite some time. He has regularly attended convention since 2010, has served with distinction on a national committee, and has held numerous positions at the LMSC level. His contributions to committee discussions were thoughtful and his positions were always well considered; he tended to be a calming influence if discussions ever became heated. He would perform his duties as secretary very well, and his voice would be valued on the Board of Directors. He has my highest recommendation.

Bruce Hopson - Candidate for Secretary



The Election Committee has deemed that Bruce Hopson 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Chris Colburn* and received a letter of recommendation from *Jim Goodwin* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes ____ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes ____ No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes ____ No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes ____ No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): ____ Yes ____ No X NA

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

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting beginning with the 2001 Meeting in Louisville, KY, through the 2016 Annual Meeting in Atlanta, GA.

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in this position and believe I would be a good candidate because I have been committed to public service for the last twenty years as a practicing attorney. I believe that my almost 40 years of swimming (15 of which as a Master) along with 15 years of bar service on the local, state and national level would make me a good candidate. In addition to my swimming, my background as both a lawyer and a bar leader would allow me to contribute my

critical thinking and organizational skills to USMS. Furthermore, I have a degree in journalism, and for several years I was the minute taker for the Long Distance Committee.

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?

I believe the major issues presently facing USMS will be how to sustain itself and maintain its relevancy in era in which people are becoming more and more reluctant to join organizations. In a similar fashion, USMS will need to figure out how it can be competitive or collaborate with other existing organizations such as USA Triathlon and to stay ahead of organizations not currently around. Finally, I see there will still be a continued focus on how to balance the interests of the fitness swimmer against those of the competitive swimmer.

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:

I served on the USMS BOD as the Director at-large from the Breadbasket Zone under the leadership of Nadine Day (2012-2015) and Patty Miller (2015-2016).. Additional from 2003-2015, I served on the Long Distance Committee under the leadership of Peter Crumbine, Marcia Cleveland, Heather Hagadorn, and then Donn Livoni. I have previously been on the legal advisors ad hoc committee under Patti Miller, and the records and tabulations committee under Ed Tsuzuki. I also have served on the Governance Committee from 2014 to present) under Leianne Crittenden, and the Elections committee from 2012-2014, and 2015-2016 (the break being because I ran for re-election) under Sheryl Gettelfinger.

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

I served as president of my club, St. Louis Area Masters Swimming from 2000-2006, and chair of the Ozark LMSC from 2004-2006. Additionally, I was co-president of IGLA from 2005-2006. In the non-swimming world, I served from 2011-2012 as president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, which is a 6,000-member voluntary bar.

Please list any other information you would like included.

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

I believe I would make a good director because I have a long background in swimming as an age group swimmer, an NCAA Division I swimmer and a master swimmer. I have previously served 4 years on the BOD (2012-2016). As an attorney, I would be able to provide needed critical thinking to board discussions. Finally, I have had 15 years of bar leadership experience on the local, state and the American Bar Association.

From: Chris Colburn

Date: April 29, 2017

Subject: Combination Nomination and Recommendation for USMS Secretary Candidate, Bruce Hopson, Ozark LMSC

To: The Elections Committee

I hereby nominate Bruce Hopson for the office of USMS Secretary.

Further, I am writing to recommend Bruce Hopson for the office of USMS Secretary. My work with Bruce on the USMS Board of Directors, and his professional and volunteer experience, lead me to believe he has the skills and experience necessary to execute the position's duties. Bruce's professional background as an attorney requires excellent communication skills, and those skills transfer into this role as well. Bruce has taken minutes in USMS settings before on the Long Distance Committee, so he is familiar with the mechanics of the role. Further, Bruce's previous work on the Board gives him some insight into the strategic work of the organization, as well as the evolving nature of the role.

Therefore, I feel that Bruce is capable of doing an admirable job in the role of USMS Secretary.

Sincerely,

Chris Colburn
USMS Secretary
Head Coach, Academy Bullets Masters (IL)

From: Jim Goodwin

Date: April 29, 2017

Subject: Recommendation of Bruce Hopson for USMS Secretary

To: The Elections Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Bruce Hopson of Ozark LMSC in support of his seeking the USMS Treasurer position. I have known Bruce for over 10 years and feel confident he would be good for this position.

He has a strong history of service, not only to swimming, but to the wider community as well. As a lifelong swimming advocate, Bruce's passion for the sport is contagious, as he has consistently drawn people back to the sport – as well as those new to swimming. He has been an active member and leader in IGLA, an associate member organization to USMS, highlighted by his term as Co-President in 2005/6. He has also been actively involved with the Saint Louis Area Masters (SLAM) serving in a variety of roles. He brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position, and I highly recommend Bruce for the USMS Secretary position.

Coming from a long line of lawyers, Bruce is adept at critical assessment, thinking and advocating for the best of his clients, and member groups. Over the years, including just last year, he has received numerous awards citing his leadership skills.

Outside of swimming, he is very active in both the American Bar Association (ABA) as well as the local bar, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL).

Sincerely,

Jim Goodwin

You may publish this letter.

Jeanne Seidler - Candidate for Secretary



The Election Committee has deemed that Jeanne Seidler is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Chris Colburn* and received a letter of recommendation from *Nina Wagner* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No X NA

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

2016	September 21-25	(Atlanta, GA)
2015	Sept 30 - Oct 4	(Kansas City, MO)
2014	September 17-21	(Jacksonville, FL)
2013	September 11-15	(Anaheim, CA)
2012	September 12-16	(Greensboro, NC)
2011	September 14-18	(Jacksonville, FL)
2009	September 16-20	(Chicago, IL)
2008	September 24-28	(Atlanta, GA)
2007	September 26-30	(Anaheim, CA)
2006	September 13-17	(Dearborn, MI)

Section Three: Questions

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

I love swimming and USMS, and I'm interested in seeing the USMS organization go on forever. I know that to keep USMS going in perpetuity, there are needs for many volunteers at all levels. I have the knowledge, skills, abilities, work experience and educational background, plus the desire, to perform at the executive level as the USMS Secretary. My highest and best skills to offer as a USMS volunteer are actually communication skills. In my 37 year career as an IT professional, those years of work sharpened both my technical skills and communication skills. Probably 50% of an IT career is spent in meetings where we formulate our designs and take copious notes, documenting ideas and designs through meeting minutes. We use the minutes to confirm the understanding of the participants and build consensus of the design ideas. Then we go on to write specifications or build prototypes, have more meetings, more notes, more minutes and more consensus building. Whether the methodology is agile or the methodology is traditional, nothing takes the place of using meetings, meeting notes and minutes to confirm and document understanding and consensus. If elected, I have no doubt that I will be able to take copious notes at meetings and produce meeting minutes plus perform related duties as the USMS Secretary.

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?

A major issue that I've seen for some time in swimming is the issue of attracting and retaining the youngest age groups (e.g. 18-24 and 25-29) into USMS membership. Masters swimming is just one age group away from extinction and the 20-somethings are crucial to helping masters swimming continue into the future. There are 2,800 USA swim teams that could be providing a path to a USMS program for their swimmers and parents by developing a USMS club organization within their clubs. In addition to college club swimming, there needs to be some emphasis on leveraging USMS club organizations in association with USA clubs. As the USMS Secretary, I would keep this issue on the table when involved in discussions about issues facing USMS.

Another issue is retention of members. My understanding is that although there are new members each year that increase the overall membership in USMS, approximately 1/4th of the members do not renew membership each year. My thought is that LMSCs need to be more proactive on the local level and leverage the programs offered by USMS. And the LMSCs need to look to programs of their own to bring in more members. For example, the LMSC could host a fitness event, or a stroke clinic. As the USMS Secretary, I would also keep discussions on the table with regard to future programs for LMSCs to attract and maintain members.

USMS needs volunteers to work to keep U.S. Masters Swimming moving forward, developing new programs, attracting new members and maintaining interest with existing members. Volunteers are needed at all levels. Quality volunteers are needed in LMSCs. The LMSC Development Committee has done excellent work on developing volunteer roll descriptions. Motivating people to volunteer will always be an issue. As Secretary, I would again keep this topic on the table when involved in discussions.

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:

Sept., 2013, to the present: Chair - USMS Records and Tabulation Committee

Sept., 2011 to Sept., 2013: Member - USMS Records and Tabulation Committee, Ed Tsuzuki and Chris Stevenson, Chairs

Sept., 2008, to Sept., 2009: Vice Chair - USMS Communications Committee, Hugh Moore, Chair

Sept., 2006, to Sept., 2008: Member - USMS Communications Committee, Hugh Moore, Chair

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

May, 2010 to Jan., 2012: Member - End-To-End-Event-Management Task Force, Ed Tsuzuki, Chair

June, 2006, to 2008: As a Volunteer, I collected meet results from LMSCs, meet directors and Top 10 Recorders and then uploaded all meet results to the early version of the current Event Rankings database. Later, as the now current Top 10 Tools were under development, I performed early testing and uploads with the initial version of the Top 10 Tools developed by USMS in 2007-2008.

Please list any other information you would like included.

As a USMS member since 2002, I first began volunteering at the local level in meet operations, running Meet Manager at many, many meets to support John Bauman as meet director since he had to run the Colorado console. I attended my first USMS Nationals in August, 2004, at Cleveland State. I swim daily and Saturdays as a member of the Schroeder Aquatic Center Masters workout group of Wisconsin Masters Aquatic Club.

Education: BBA, 1968, University of Wisconsin, Madison, the undergraduate degree was a Bachelor of Business Administration in Quantitative Analysis, e.g. Statistics and Operations Research

Career: 37 years as a full time Information Systems professional, analyst, developer, project manager, during which I remained engaged in technology with projects implemented on the leading edge technology platforms.

1968-1970: IBM, systems engineer in the marketing branch office (2 years)

1971-1972: A.O. Smith, analyst, developer (2 years)

1973-2005: Miller Brewing Company (now MillerCoors), designer, analyst, developer and project manager, often simultaneously in different roles but on different projects. (32.75 years)

Family: Married, 3 adult children, 3 grandchildren. Two daughters are USMS members. One grandchild is a USA swimming member and 2 are in pre-competitive classes. My own three children were age-group swimmers and I began to direct events as a meet director for their age-group team in 1982. I started swimming for exercise in 1994 and swam my first Badger State Games meet as a recreational swimmer in 1995. Swimming has figured prominently in our lives and continues to do so.

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

The position of USMS Secretary requires an individual with extensive communication skills and multitasking capabilities. I am bringing to the position my 37 years of experience as an IT developer. Much of the non-technical part of my career was spent in meetings, discussing designs, taking notes, writing minutes to confirm understanding and then starting the process all over again with the next phase of a project or an entirely new project. I'm confident that I have the right mix of skills, education and work experience to perform on the executive level in the job function of USMS Secretary. Swimming has figured prominently in my life and I've been giving back to swimming as a volunteer since I retired from my IT career in 2005. Swimming is my favorite form of exercise. I tell others about the swimming "fountain of youth" every time I have the chance to speak on the topic.

From: Chris Colburn

Date: April 29, 2017

Subject: Combined Nomination and Recommendation for USMS Secretary Candidate, Jeanne Seidler, Wisconsin LMSC

To: The Elections Committee

I hereby nominate Jeanne Seidler for the office of USMS Secretary.

To that end, I am also writing to endorse and recommend Jeanne Seidler for the office of USMS Secretary. My long association with Jeanne as an active volunteer, meet director, and advocate for Masters Swimming leads me to believe Jeanne has the skills and experience necessary to faithfully execute the required duties. As an IT professional, Jeanne demonstrated her abilities to think logically, meet many deadlines, and provide detailed documentation to succeed in her profession. As the long-time meet director of the Wisconsin LMSC Championships meets, Jeanne has provided detailed communication that demonstrates both her writing skills and her ability to lead AND "do the work." As Chair of the Records and Tabulations Committee, Jeanne's attention to detail has helped many USMS volunteers, including me, to provide and update accurate results in the USMS Results Database, among her myriad of other duties and tasks. Jeanne's organizational skills and strong relationships within USMS will help her to provide strategic input to the USMS Board of Directors and Executive Committee, as well as to improve the business processes of the role as it evolves.

Therefore, I feel that Jeanne Seidler will do an excellent job in the role of USMS Secretary.

Sincerely,

Chris Colburn
USMS Secretary
Head Coach, Academy Bullets Masters (IL)

From: Nina E Wagner

Date: April 28, 2017

Subject: Letter of Recommendation for USMS Secretary, Jeanne Seidler

To: The Elections Committee

It is my pleasure to recommend and endorse Jeanne Seidler as the candidate for USMS Secretary.

My association with Jeanne via USMS has been through the thirteen (13) short course and long course Wisconsin State Championship meets held at the Schroeder Aquatic Center in Brown Deer, Wisconsin, since 2010. During each of these meets, I've run the pool office, Meet Manager for scoring and performed the admin referee role. Jeanne's inspiration and training in this role for her USMS meets inspired me to begin USA certifications as an apprentice Stroke and Turn Judge and apprentice Administrative Referee this past year when my own children began age group swimming. I will complete these apprenticeships this swim season.

Jeanne began volunteering for USMS and the Wisconsin LMSC in 2006, after retiring from a several decades-long Information Technology career. As of 2017, Jeanne is truly the heart of her LMSC, volunteering as the sanctions chair, Top 10 Recorder and LMSC records administrator. In addition, she was the Wisconsin LMSC Chair from 2012 until this year when she passed the baton to a new Chair and became the Vice Chair of the LMSC. For USMS, Jeanne became a member of the Records and Tabulation Committee after the Communications Committee was disbanded, and she has been the Chair of the committee since 2014.

Throughout Jeanne's life and IT career, communication skills have been one of her major assets. She is an excellent communicator and negotiator; she is talented at keeping everyone informed of developments, achieving compromises, and overcoming obstacles. Jeanne approaches her volunteering duties with the same intensity that she approached her career. Jeanne definitely has the communication skills necessary to execute the functions of the USMS Secretary. If elected, she will clearly do what is expected and necessary to perform all the duties of USMS Secretary and succeed in that position.

I may also be in a unique position to recommend Jeanne. I am her daughter, and I have had the pleasure of swimming with her, serving underneath her as the Chair of the Wisconsin LMSC, and knowing her as a person instead of just as a parent.

Without reservation, I recommend and endorse Jeanne Seidler for the USMS Secretary position.

Truly yours,

Nina E Wagner

USA Official, apprentice Stroke and Turn Judge and apprentice Administrative Referee

Ralph Davis - Candidate for Treasurer



The Election Committee has deemed that Ralph Davis 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate is running for reelection and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or letters of recommendation.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: ☒ Yes ☐ No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A

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

1999 September 15-19 San Diego, CA
2000 October 11-15 Kissimmee, FL
2001 November 15-18 Louisville, KY
2002 September 11-15 Dallas/Fort Worth
2003 September 10-14 San Diego, CA
2004 September 15-19 Orlando, FL
2006 September 13-17 Dearborn, MI
2007 September 26-30 Anaheim, CA
2008 September 24-28 Atlanta, GA
2009 September 16-20 Chicago, IL
2010 September 15-19 Dallas, TX
2011 September 14-18 Jacksonville, FL

2012 September 12-16 Greensboro, NC
2013 September 11-15 Anaheim, CA
2014 September 17-21 Jacksonville FL
2015 September 30 to Oct.4 Kansas City, MO
2016 September 21-25 Atlanta, GA
2015 September 30 to Oct.4 Kansas City, MO
2016 September 21-25 Atlanta, GA

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in the ***Treasurer's*** position because of my love for Masters swimming and my desire to serve USMS in a capacity that I am professionally qualified.

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting and financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multi-national corporation to company start-ups and business consulting. I have managed domestic and international financial operations coupled with developing local and worldwide strategies for their performance. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, combining diverse cultural and differing traditions to achieve corporate objectives. I believe that I can continue to provide a fresh and unique perspective to the Treasurer's position. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the position's requirements. I'm confident I can continue to add value to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Treasurer for an additional two years.

I have served on the Finance Committee for 18 years and two years as the Chairman. I have been USMS Treasurer for 6 years, consequently, I am well versed with the financial and operations of USMS. I am currently a member of the Investment Committee and of the Audit Committee.

My current career status enables great flexibility to serve USMS. I have a passion to volunteer my time at this stage of my life and to give something back for all that I have obtained. I feel fortunate to have received a gift of life when I acquired my transplanted heart in February 2006.

Education qualifications:

Master of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1970

Bachelor of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1969

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?

1. Engage new volunteers and develop new leaders for USMS. We must determine how we are going to get new volunteers involved in the organization and develop them to become the future leadership. We need to develop a program specific to local LMSCs that encourages new members to attend the national convention and become more willingly involved in our organization. We may need to assist certain LMSCs with funding, but we need to have precise USMS programs that support getting new faces to our convention. If we avoid setting a proactive agenda to this issue, I believe it may become increasingly difficult to acquire adequate leadership for the future success of USMS.

2. Organization structure for the guidance of USMS. We embarked on a new era for USMS in 2009 hiring a new Executive Director, establishing its National Office in Sarasota, Florida and implementing a new 5 Year plan for the organization. We are in an excellent financial position as an organization after our first Five Year Plan. We grew membership from 48,310 to 59,063.

The Board has the Challenge of a new five year plan (2017-2022) for the organization. USMS has developed a great strategic plan in 2016. Now the Corporate Office with the support of the Board, needs to develop the operation tactics to lay the foundation to achieve our strategic plan that supports a goal of growing to 100,000 members. I look forward to the opportunity of helping support the Strategic Plan and the mission of USMS.

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:

I have served on the Finance Committee since 2000. My committee chairs have been Doug Church, Jeff Moxie, Tom Boak, and currently Chair Jeanne Ensign. I was Vice-Chair under Tom Boak. I was the Chairman of the Finance Committee 2007 to 2009.

I have been a member of the Audit Committee since its formation in 2009. The first Chair was Jill Gellatly and second and current Chair is Elyce Dilworth.

I have been a member of the Investment Committee since its formation in 2009. Dave Burgio was the Chair from 2009 to September of 2013. I was Investment Committee Chair from September 2013 to September 2015. The Current Chair is Phil Dodson.

I served on the Executive Committee from 2009 to 2013 and from 2015 to 2017. The Chairs of the committee were Jeff Moxie, Nadine Day and Patty Miller.

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

I have enjoyed two careers; my first as finance executive of Federal-Mogul (23 years) with direct responsibility for all financial activities of diverse manufacturing businesses in the United States and 12 foreign countries generating \$600 million in sales. I possess extensive experience in managing global financial staffs, analyzing and monitoring individual unit performance, developing local and worldwide strategies, organizing joint venture/licensing agreements, managing foreign exchange exposure, directing treasury function at international locations and counseling the Group President as well as the location General Managers. I recruited and trained highly successful Directors of Finance for eight foreign subsidiaries.

My second career involves administering and operating a management and financial consulting company of which I have co-ownership. My financial consulting company serves industry on domestic and international projects led and managed a number of successful business turnarounds and started up a high-tech pharmaceutical venture. Via my consulting company, I have managed and directed the operations of a software company with operations in India and the United States for 8 years from 2007 to 2015.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Age 70, excellent health, new heart, married 51 years, three daughters and five grandchildren.

Hobbies: competitive swimming, golf, and financial advising.

Treasurer, Michigan LMSC, 1997 to 2007

Vice-Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2007 to 2009

Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2009 to 2011

Chair, Michigan Masters Swimming Endowment Committee 2008 to Present

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

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting and financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multinational corporation to start-ups and business consulting. I have managed both domestic and international financial operations. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, bringing diverse cultural and differing traditions together to achieve corporate goals.

I believe that I can continue to bring a fresh and unique perspective to USMS as ***Treasurer***. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the ***Treasurer's*** position's requirements. I firmly believe I can continue to add value to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Treasurer for another term of 2 years.

Audit

Committee Members

Elyce Dilworth, Chair; Teddy Decker, Vice Chair

Phil Dodson, Jeanne Ensign, Jill Gellatly, Laura Winslow

Ex-Officio: Ralph Davis, Susan Kuhlman

Introduction

The Audit Committee's primary responsibility is to monitor the reliability and integrity of the financial statements of United States Masters Swimming, Inc. (USMS), monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the organization's operating systems, and monitor the independence and performance of USMS's external auditors.

With regard to the 2016 audit, USMS received an "unmodified" opinion from Kerkerling, Barberio & Co. (K&B). An "unmodified opinion" is one that is free of material financial statement errors.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Reviewed and recommended approval of the 2016 audited financial statements to the BOD. Included annual meeting of members with K&B in Sarasota.
2. Reviewed and recommended approval of the Form 990 tax forms for the year ending December 31, 2016.
3. Executive Summary report provided to BOD for July mid-year meeting. The report included the results of the 2016 audit process and findings.
4. Reviewed progress of IT modernization project.

Action Items

1. Recommend changes to Audit Committee Charter, if necessary.
2. Recommend to Finance Committee changes to FOG, if necessary.
3. Recommend changes to LMSC Bank Reconciliation Standards, if necessary.

Agenda

1. Review Audit Committee Charter
2. Discuss any changes to format of 2017 financial statements
3. Review changes to FOG, if any
4. Review LMSC Bank Reconciliation Standards

Audit Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting #1 – Friday, 8:00am-9:15am

Compensation and Benefits

Committee Members

Ed Coates, Chair; Sarah Welch, Vice Chair

Hill Carrow, Erika Braun, Jim Miller,

Ex-Officio: Patty Miller

Introduction

The Compensation and Benefits committee advises the Board of Directors on compensation and benefits programs for USMS staff.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Review and recommend CEO bonus goals to Board for 2017
2. Review and recommend CEO compensation adjustment for 2017
3. Evaluated CEO performance against 2016 Bonus goals and recommended payout
4. Review and Recommend compensation and benefits budget to Finance Committee for inclusion in the 2018 budget
5. Provided advice and counsel to CEO on personnel matters

Action Items

1. Committee recommended approval of 2017 CEO goals to the Board of Directors.
2. Committee recommended approval of 2017 CEO compensation adjustment to the Board of Directors
3. Committee recommended approval of 2016 CEO bonus payout to the Board of Directors.
4. All items recommended to the board were approved

Agenda

1. Open discussion
2. Preliminary review of 2017 goals results
3. Review CEO Board Relations Survey results
4. Discuss CEO annual compensation review
5. Discussion of 2018 bonus goals
6. Discussion of 401k Fiduciary responsibilities
7. Review Committee charter

Finance

Committee Members

Jeanne Ensign, Chair; Harry Greenfield, Vice Chair

Tom Boak, Elyce Dilworth, Phil Dodson, Jack Groselle, Peter Guadagni, Homer Lane, Laura Shope, Laura Winslow, Susie Young

Ex-Officio: Ralph Davis, Treasurer; Susan Kuhlman, CFO

Introduction

Finance Committee is a permanent committee of the Board of Directors (“Board”). Its responsibility is to propose policies pertaining to the financial affairs of USMS for approval by the Board, to receive and review the reports of the Treasurer and National Office and to review and recommend to the Board the annual operating and capital budgets prepared by the National Office.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The committee met during the year by conference call, and will meet to discuss the 2018 budget in the weeks leading up to convention. During the year committee members:

1. Reviewed and discussed monthly financial reports, final 2016 operating results and 2017 quarterly forecasts prepared by the CFO.
2. Discussed the timing and initiation of fee changes and as a result established a Budget and Fees Subcommittee chaired by Peter Guadagni. Following approval by the full committee the subcommittee recommendations were forwarded to the Board for consideration during their July meeting. The recommendations: 1) membership registration fees continue to be approved by the House of Delegates, 2) changes to a budget submitted by the Board require a two thirds affirmative vote by the House of Delegates, 3) the proposed budget be available to delegates prior to convention (which has been the practice in recent years but not previously formalized), and 4) hold an open forum early in the convention where delegates may ask questions, voice concerns or offer suggestions regarding the budget and fees. This forum is in addition to time during the first two Finance Committee meetings that are open to all delegates. The Board submitted legislation amendment proposals related to these recommendations.
3. A subcommittee is currently working on updates to FOG including those contained in the recommendations from the Budget and Fees Subcommittee (#2 above). The recommendations will be submitted to the Board. Following approval by the Board the policy and an executive summary will be posted in the minutes section of the USMS website.
4. Approved an over budget request of up to \$13,422 submitted by the Coaches Committee for coaches’ support at the 2017 FINA World Masters Championships.
5. Approved an over budget request of up to \$5,000 submitted by the LMSC Development Committee for the 2017 Leadership Summit.

6. Ralph Davis, as an appointee of the committee, reviewed the SouthTech contract for IT managed services. (FOG XII.D requires proposed contracts greater than \$30,000 to be reviewed by a representative of Finance Committee).

Action Items

1. Approval of minutes of meetings since prior convention
2. Review of over budget requests since prior convention
3. Approval of 2018 budget
4. Welcome and Introductions
5. Approve meeting minutes since prior convention
6. Review over budget requests since prior convention
7. Chief Financial Officer's report – Susan Kuhlman
8. Treasurer's report – Ralph Davis
9. Audit Committee report – Elyce Dilworth
10. Budget Q&A (Wednesday and Thursday sessions)
11. Review all elements of 2018 budget, recommend amendments and present to BOD (by end of Thursday 11am-12pm session)
12. Upcoming projects

Finance Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting #1 – Wednesday, 4:00pm – 5:30pm
Meeting #2 – Thursday, 11:00am – 12:00pm
Meeting #3 – Friday, 9:30am – 10:30am

Investment

Committee Members:

Phil Dodson, Chair; Stan Benson, Vice Chair

Bill Sherman, Homer Lane, Guy Davis, Jay

Ex- officio: Susan Kuhlman, Ralph Davis

Introduction:

This Committee is responsible for overseeing USMS's Investment Philosophy of investing the financial assets of USMS and the Swimming Saves Lives Fund (SSL) in excess of needed working capital, consistent with a policy of prudent investment planning and protection of assets according to the established USMS Investment Policy approved by the USMS Board of Directors.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

1. Recommended changes to the Investment Policy Statement, which the BOD approved. Changes were:
 - a. Permits Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) as an investment vehicle
 - b. Permits investments in High Yield Bond Funds as an asset class
2. Approved procedures for investing new Board approved funds transferred into the USMS investment portfolio utilizing a "dollar cost averaging" investment methodology.
3. Comprehensively reviewed the Northern Trust Performance-Benchmark Report, evaluating each Mutual Fund and ETF in the USMS and SSL Portfolios on a quarterly basis as a committee.
4. Continued detailed quarterly discussions with our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager on; Fund Performance, recommended USMS Portfolio changes, and meaningful economic trends that could have impact on the USMS Portfolio.
5. Continued to prepare quarterly Investment Committee Reports for the Board of Directors.

Action Items:

1. All the aforementioned projects continue to carry forward as regular action items.
2. Monitor the investment of \$500,000 in new funds approved by the Board in July 2017.

Report on USMS Investments of June 30, 2017:

The Market Value of our USMS Portfolio ending 6/30/2016 was \$2,532,656 up \$832,680 from our original cash investment of \$1,699,976 in 2011, or nearly 49%, and the SSL Portfolio was \$201,179, up from its initial investment of \$175,000 in November 2015.

For first six months of 2017 our USMS portfolio was up 7.41% and the SSL portfolio up 6.85%.

Our target asset allocation for the USMS portfolio remains at 60% stock/40% fixed income-cash. As of June 30, 2017 our Equity Securities totaled 62.3%, Fixed Income Securities totaled 34.3%, 0.5% in Cash and Short Term securities and 2.9% in Real Estate. The Investment Committee, along with our Portfolio Manager, still believes that our current Portfolio asset allocation remains appropriate for USMS.

Looking forward to the 2nd half of 2017, our main objectives are to work with our advisor (Northern Trust): 1) maintain sufficient cash balance to transfer to operations 2) be prepared for continued volatility 3) remain vigilant on the global economic and market outlooks and 4) rebalance or shift asset allocations if conditions warrant.

The Investment Committee is pleased to continue to be entrusted to responsibly steward the assets of USMS.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Dodson, Chair, USMS Investment Committee

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas:

Investment Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 - Wednesday, 2:30pm-4:00pm

Meeting #2 – Thursday, 9:45am-10:45am

1. Discussion of USMS Portfolio recommendations, if any, proposed by our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager.
2. Discussion of USMS Portfolio returns, and individual fund performance to date.
3. Conference Call with James Gregory, our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager.
4. Review of Investment Committee Meeting schedule for 2017-2018.
5. Other items requiring Investment Committee attention.

Governance

Committee Members

Leianne Crittenden, Chair; Jim Wheeler, Vice Chair

Dave Diehl, Sean Fitzgerald, Bruce Hopson, Hugh Moore, Tom Moore, Chris Stevenson

Ex officio: Patty Miller, Dawson Hughes

Introduction

The Governance Committee is responsible for ongoing review and recommendations to enhance the quality of the USMS governance structure, including the Board, committees, local, and regional divisions of USMS.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The Governance Committee discussed questions posed for us by the BOD:

1. The Zone Chairs are the only elected positions that are not subject to term limits. Please discuss and make a recommendation.

Recommendation: Consensus was to encourage volunteers to run for office and have additional volunteers in the organization, we should make Zone chairs subject to term limits in the same manner as elected USMS Officers.

We submitted a Rule change that tracks the rule for officers:

"505.2.4 Each officer is eligible for election to the same office for two terms. No person so elected for two successive terms is eligible for reelection to the same office until after the lapse of two years following the term of office to which that person was last elected."

Here is the proposed Rule, as approved by the Board of Directors:

503.3.4 Each zone chair is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. No person so elected for two successive terms is eligible for reelection to the same position until after the lapse of two years following the term of office to which that person was last elected.

2. Discuss the roles of Committees whose tasks are administered primarily by the National Office.

Recommendation: We agreed to recommend smaller membership on these committees with activities to include acting as a resource, improving communication, and training as needed.

Board Education. The Governance Committee's Education Subcommittee discussed topics for Board education, and decided to initially have the Board complete a self assessment. This was completed and discussed at the July Board Meeting.

**Governance Committee Meeting Agenda
Meeting - Thursday, 1:30pm-2:30pm**

Swimming Saves Lives Foundation

Committee Members

Brandon Franklin, Chair; Debbie Malafsky, Vice Chair

Nadine Day, Jay Definis, Maria Elias-Williams, F.H. “Ted” Haartz, Michael Hamm, Tom Holmberg, Bill Meier, Patty Miller, Nancy Ridout, Leslie Scott

Ex-Officio: Holly Neumann

Introduction

The Swimming Saves Lives Foundation supports swim-lesson providers and programs with grants to allow lessons for adults to be offered at reduced- or no-cost. Grant funds come from charitable donations made by USMS members and the general public as well as from crowdfunding events and peer-to-peer fundraising efforts.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. A key initiative in the current year is to clarify the messaging of The Swimming Saves Lives Foundation (SSLF), ALTS, the overall USMS organization and how it all fits together. In the past, USMS, the Adult Learn to Swim and SSLF have not had a singular message about the combined mission. The current year has been about tying it all together whereby a unified *USMS* message is provided which sets forth the key pillars:
 1. Fundraising;
 2. Teaching Adults to Learn to Swim;
 3. Certifying instructors; and
 4. Running programs

Further, the “April is Adult Learn to Swim Month” is the initiative that allows for USMS as a whole to set forth all that USMS does which includes SSLF, ALTS and the certification program.

2. The PR effort around the “April is Adult Learn to Swim Month” is improving as a result of the cumulative knowledge gained over the past years. Specific markets were targeted this past year as opposed to a more blanket approach previously employed.
3. Legendary pitchman Anthony Sullivan, who is also an active swimmer and adult learn-to-swim instructor, served as a spokeswoman for the “April is Adult Learn to Swim Month”. Here is a link to the public service announcement video on YouTube: <http://bit.ly/ASALTS2017>
4. In addition to the more concise structure and messaging as noted above, the concept of *Event Fundraising* across the broader USMS organization has been discussed. As an example, there will be several USMS sponsored fitness challenges taking place in 2018 which will have a SSLF fundraising component to it. This is a new area that will expand over time.

5. In 2017 a total of 38 grant programs were funded (from a total of 74 applications) for a total of ~\$88,240 in grants. The National Office supported the programs with gear and materials (T-shirt, goggles, caps, banners, lesson plans, etc.).
6. As of July 17, approximately 12 of the 38 programs have completed classes and reported their metrics while the remaining programs have yet to complete, which is reasonable given they have until the end of 2017 to finish up.
7. Of the 12 programs that have reported in thus far, 772 adults have been through the program. Based upon the mid-year reporting from prior year, 628 adults had been through the program. It is therefore not unreasonable to conclude that over 1,000 adults will go through the program in 2017.
8. It should also be noted that a greater number of programs receiving grants are utilizing a certified ALTS instructor to run the program than in previous years. This obviously improves coordination and communication between USMS and the program management which increases the likelihood of a successful program.
9. A total of 82 applications for 2018 grants were received before the deadline and are being considered for approval (74 in 2017).
10. Since the inception of SSLF, USMS has funded all Program and Overhead costs associated with running the SSLF program. The primary costs Program and Overhead costs USMS has covered include Caps, Goggles, Banners (Program Costs), Public Relations, Labor, IT, Office Space, etc. (Overhead). Going forward, a separate standalone budget will be prepared for SSLF as part of the annual budget process. As part of this process, a policy will be adopted whereby SSLF will fund a portion of the Program cost while USMS will continue to fund the Overhead costs. Further, a component of SSLF's annual fundraising amounts will be placed in reserve for future needs as appropriate. This policy is being discussed and will be submitted for approval to the USMS Board of Directors when appropriate.

Action Items

1. Board of Trustees to agree upon the following:
 - a. The percentage of annual fundraising amounts to be applied toward funding overhead SSLF specific activities.
 - b. The percentage of annual fundraising amounts to be placed in reserve.
 - c. The number of grants and the relates amount of funds to be awarded for the 2017-18 grant programs.
2. Conclusions to the above be put forward to the Board of Directors of USMS.

Agenda

1. Overview of the Projects highlighted above
2. Overview of the Grant Applications
3. Recommendations to be approved and announced by board of trustees.
4. New business

**Swimming Saves Lives Meeting Agenda
Meeting - Friday, 1:15pm-2:15pm**

FINA Representative

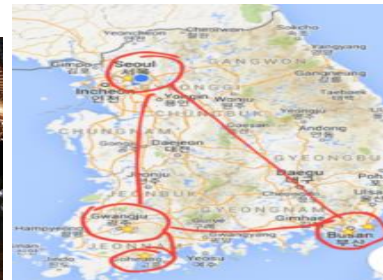
Mel Goldstein

Budapest, Hungary was the host for the 2017 FINA Masters World Championships.



The championships attracted 10,000+ Masters athletes in 5 disciplines (*Diving, Synchronized Swimming, Water Polo, Open Water and Swimming*). This was an outstanding championship, those in attendance experienced a lifetime experience in Budapest. The host organization utilized 4 pools for the swimming competition thus providing the competitors with reasonable days of competition and the opportunity to experience the beautiful city of Budapest. The Open Water competition was held at Lake Balaton a beautiful venue for Open Water. There were over 1000 Open Water swimmers and as with Swimming the competition was over three days thus providing opportunity to site see in Hungary. As the FINA Liaison I have never experienced a safety plan so well organized and prepared.

The 2019 FINA World Championships will be held in Gwangju, Korea and the organizing committee is already making plans to provide the Masters athletes with an unforgettable experience in their Championships.



The FINA Bureau approved the recommendation of the FINA Masters Technical Committee to develop a marketing plan to promote Masters Swimming throughout the world. This marketing plan includes a video promoting Masters aquatics in all disciplines, and presence of Masters at all major FINA activities like FINA World Aquatics Convention. This is the first step for FINA going beyond competition to promote Masters aquatics throughout the world.

International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison

Walt Reid

IMSHOF (International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame)

The 2016 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held during the USAS Convention in Atlanta. Joann Leilich, Nicolas Graner and Thomas Maine were inducted as “Honor Swimmers”. Tom Boak was inducted as “Honor Contributor”.

Of the six 2017 male Honor Swimmer nominees, three are from USMS. They are Yoshi Oyakawa, Jurgen Schmidt, and Hugh Wilder. Of the six female Honor Swimmer nominees for 2017, four are from USMS. They are Anne Adams, Ann Hirsch, Maurine Kornfeld and Danielle Ogier. The USMS nominee for “Honor Contributor” is Walt Reid. The winners will be announced shortly, and the 2017 IMSHOF Induction Ceremony will be held during the 2017 USAS Convention in Dallas.

ISHOF (International Swimming Hall of Fame)

Based on a point system, each year the top 6 male and the top 6 female swimmers are submitted as nominees for the ISHOF “Honor Masters Swimmer” category. The male nominees from USMS for 2017 were Aldo da Rosa, Burwell Jones, Frank Piemme, Robert Strand, and Jim McConica. The USMS women were Betsy Jordan, Rita Simonton, and Lois Kivi Nochman . No Masters were selected for the 2017 induction.

The 2016 International Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held Oct 28-30 in Santa Clara California. The 2017 International Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is scheduled for Aug 25-27 in Fort Lauderdale.

Since the city of Ft. Lauderdale has decided to repair the existing facility instead of tearing it down, it appears that ISHOF will continue to occupy their existing facility in Ft. Lauderdale and still be part of the new swimming complex in Santa Clara.

In the June/July ISHOF Newsletter Bruce Wigo announced his decision to resign as the CEO of ISHOF.

National Senior Games

Bill Tingley

The National Senior Games are held in odd years, with the qualifying meets being held in even years at each state's local Senior Games. In 2017 swimming was one of 18 sports contested in the National Senior Games in Birmingham, Alabama. The swimming events took place at Birmingham CrossPlex, which is a new sports facility.

To be eligible to enter the National Senior Games, a swimmer must have placed in the top three in a state games meet. If a swimmer finishes above third place in a state Senior Games competition, he or she may enter that event, if the time was better than the published time standard.

The National Senior Games has been recognized by the host LMSC for the last nine games. The Southeastern LMSC was our host LMSC this year and all of the times achieved have been reported.

In the past nine years, both national records and Top 10 swims have been achieved and reported to USMS. Some state Senior Games have applied for and received USMS recognition during the past year.

A total of 245 USMS registered swimmers, over 50 years old, participated in this year's Games. The highlight of the meet was Doug Springer of Arizona Masters setting a USMS record in the 400 IM. His time of 5:28.47 surpassed Burwell Jones's time of 5:34.37 set in 2003. There are numerous swims that will be in consideration for the 2018 SCY Top 10.

The 200 fly and 400 IM are new to the National Senior Games this year, and in 2019 NSGA is planning to add mixed medley and free relays to the event schedule.

Qualifying for the 2019 National Senior Games will start at the state Senior Games around the country in January of 2018. For more information about the 2018 state Senior Games, contact the local game coordinators at <http://nsga.com/state-games>.

The 2019 National Senior Games will be held June 14–25 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, at the West Mesa Aquatic Center. The exact dates for swimming will be finalized and announced later this year.

UANA Representative

Mel Goldstein

UANA stands for Union Americana de Natacion. It is the regional organization under FINA that encompasses North America, South America and the Caribbean nations (43 Federations). United States Aquatic Sports represents one of the Zones under the UANA banner. UANA was established in 1948. The logos involved here, just so you're familiar with them, are:



The 2018 UANA Pan American Masters Championship will be held in Orlando, Florida, July 22-August 9, 2018.



This event is expecting entries of over 3,000 athletes from the America's and the Caribbean (*Swimming, Diving, Water Polo, Synchronized Swimming and Open Water*). This event should be the largest Masters event held in North America other than the FINA World Championships at Stanford and Montreal. The Orlando LOC has submitted their entry booklet to the UANA Technical Committee for review and will have an online entry system in place for entries. Entries are expected to open sometime later this year.

The 2020 UANA Pan American Masters Championships LOC which will be hosted by Medellin, Colombia are also working on plans for their championships. They will have a presence at the 2018 championships in Orlando.

UANA Pan American Open Water Championships – Cayman Islands.

This was the first UANA Pan American Open Water Championships in over 5 years. It was also the first time Elite and Masters were participating in the same event. The Championship was conducted in conjunction with the "Flowers Sea Swim" a 1 mile race held each year. This year was the 25th year for this event... The Championship was a four-day event, with 4 events. Very well organized and very well attended. The UANA Open Water Technical Committee met and voted to return to the Cayman Islands for 2018 for their championships and will again include a

Liaison and Special Appointment Reports

Masters Category. Since 2018 is UANA Masters Pan American Championship year, the Masters championships will be called “UANA Masters America’s Cup OW Championships”. A task force was formed to work out scheduling by the UANA Open Water Technical Committee and Masters, the committee will include a Masters representative.

The committee is still seeking federations to host clinics in the remainder of 2017 and or 2018 for coaches, swimmers and definitive leaders to further educate them on the benefits from Masters aquatics.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE USMS GLOSSARY AND PART 1 RULES OF COMPETITION

The following proposed amendments to the USMS Rules of Competition were submitted to the Rules Committee in accordance with Articles 601.2, 601.4.5, and 601.4.7.

For submissions which have already been considered by the Rules Committee at the time of publication, the action is indicated. If no action is indicated, then the proposed amendment will be considered by the Rules Committee prior to or at the annual convention before being submitted to the House of Delegates.

Number	Section	Description	Committee Action
R-1	Preamble	Change the word “event” to “meet”	Recommended
R-2	102.3 & 102.5	Permit adjustment of age groups for organizations which have different age policies from USMS.	
R-3	102.5.2	Add 25-yard and 25-meter events to the list of conforming events.	
R-4		Withdrawn by the Rules Committee	
R-5	102.5.6	Clarify requirements for publishing the meet announcement.	Recommended
R-6	102.6	Codify event limits in dual-sanctioned meets with USA Swimming.	
R-7	102.13.7	Permit swimmers to warm down in their assigned lanes without being subject to disqualification.	Recommended as Amended
R-8	103.4	Clarify reporting of officials and other volunteers to the meet referee and meet director.	Recommended as Amended
R-9	103.6.6 103.18.5 103.18.6 103.18.7	Eliminate acceptance of USMS records using manual and semiautomatic primary timing systems.	
R-10	103.8.5	Add reference for forward start commands to starter’s instructions.	Recommended
R-11	103.8.6	Correct reference.	Recommended
R-12	103.16	Clarify the duties of “clerk of course”.	Recommended
R-13	103.18.2	Make automatic splits a permanent requirement for all national championship meets.	Recommended
R-14	103.18.7	Permit manual backup systems to count for USMS records if a semiautomatic primary system is in use that does meet the requirement for records.	
R-15	103.18.9	Add a requirement to state the timing system used and expectations for records and top 10 in the meet announcement.	
R-16	104.4	Add a requirement for a meet referee report for national championships.	Recommended as Amended

Updated with Committee Actions as of August 27, 2017

R-17	104.5.5	Prohibit foreign swimmers from representing USMS clubs at national championships.	Not Recommended
R-18	104.5.5	Clarify decision responsibilities for seeding within the championship committee.	Recommended
R-19	104.5.10	Modify the responsibilities for appointing the leadership officials at national championships.	Recommended as Amended
R-20	106.3	Delete recommendation for “toe ledge” in facilities standards.	Recommended
H-1	Glossary	Correct spelling of FINA.	Recommended
H-2	103.2.1	Clarify the number of officials for meets which are observed by USA Swimming officials for inclusion of times in the USA Swimming database. (Contingent upon USA Swimming rule change.)	
H-3	103.11	Change reference to “timing judge” and replace with “administrative official”.	Recommended
H-4	104.5	Change “schedule” to “format”.	Recommended
H-5	106.15	Correct reference number.	Recommended
F-1	101.3.3	Change adopted by FINA to the butterfly kick rule.	
F-2	101.6	Change adopted by FINA to clarify body position during the freestyle leg of individual medley and medley relay events.	
F-3	103.6.6 103.18.5 103.18.6 103.18.7	Change adopted by FINA to clarify that world records will no longer be accepted using manual and semiautomatic primary timing systems.	
U-1	101.7	Change proposed by USA Swimming to prohibit relay swimmers from starting while standing on the surface of the adjustable back plate on the starting platform.	
U-2	103.11	Change proposed by USA Swimming to update terminology for administrative official.	
U-3	103.17.3	Change proposed by USA Swimming to clarify determination of official time when only one watch time is available.	
U-4	106.11.3	Change proposed by USA Swimming to distinguish between hand grips for backstroke starts and forward starts.	

The following proposed amendments to the USMS Rules of Competition were submitted to the Rules Committee in accordance with Articles 601.2, 601.4.5, and 601.4.7. If adopted by the House of Delegates, these amendments will take effect on January 1, 2018.

R-1 Preamble page 1 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Part 1: Swimming Rules

All competitive swimming meets or events held under corporate sanction shall be conducted in accordance with the following rules, which are designed to provide fair and equitable conditions of competition.

Rationale: There are multiple glossary definitions of the term “event” which has led to some confusion in interpreting the rules. An “event” can refer to pool, long distance, or open water meets, but also “a series of races in a given stroke and distance”. This clarifies that part one refers specifically to pool meets.

R-2 102.3, 102.5 pages 6-7 Rules Committee Add/Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.3 Age Groups

102.3.3 If a sanctioned meet is conducted by an organization whose age eligibility requirements differ from USMS (see 202.1.1G), the age groups listed in 102.3.1 and 102.3.2 may be adjusted to conform to the minimum and maximum ages eligible to compete in the meet.

102.5 Events

102.5.2 Any event (series of races in a given stroke and distance) conducted at a sanctioned meet must be offered for all age groups listed in 102.3.1 and 102.3.2 and both genders. For sanctioned meets conducted by organizations whose age eligibility requirements differ from USMS (see 202.1.1G), any event conducted must be offered for all age groups eligible to compete in the meet and for both genders. Events may be repeated with the same stroke and distance as different event numbers at a meet. Any of the following events may be conducted.

Rationale: An official interpretation of 102.5 was issued in January 2017. The language of 102.5 is interpreted to mean that all events (series of races in a given stroke and distance) at USMS sanctioned meets must be offered to all of the age groups listed in 102.3 without exception. A format that restricts the age groups (for example, with a minimum age greater than 18) is not in compliance with the rules. This proposed change provides for exceptions to sanctioned meets

conducted by affiliate organizations with different age policies (for example, the Senior Games, or the USA Masters Games). Note that 102.5 is not listed in the rules required for recognized meets, so meets with different age eligibility policies may be recognized without the need to comply with 102.1, 102.3, or 102.5.

R-3 102.5.2 page 7 New England LMSC Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.5.2 Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Events may be repeated with the same stroke and distance as different event numbers at a meet. Any of the following events may be conducted.

A. Short Course (25) Yards

25-50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle

25-50-100-200 yards backstroke

25-50-100-200 yards breaststroke

25-50-100-200 yards butterfly

100-200-400 yards individual medley

200-400-800 yards freestyle relay

200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay

200-400 yards medley relay

200-400 yards mixed medley relay

B. Long Course (50) Meters and Short Course (25) Meters

25*-50-100-200-400-800-1500 meters freestyle

25*-50-100-200 meters backstroke

25*-50-100-200 meters breaststroke

25*-50-100-200 meters butterfly

100*-200-400 meters individual medley

200-400-800 meters freestyle relay

200-400-800 meters mixed freestyle relay

200-400 meters medley relay

200-400 meters mixed medley relay

*short course meters only

Rationale: Currently 25-yard and 25-meter events are permitted as non-conforming events, but they are not recognized for records, top 10, and All-American status. As a result, few meets offer them as an option. Adding 25-yard and 25-meter events would broaden our competitive base by attracting newer swimmers to meets and thereby creating a higher quality product when focusing on base growth of participation.

R-4 was withdrawn by the Rules Committee prior to the August 15 deadline to publish proposed amendments to the House of Delegates.

R-5 102.5.6 page 8 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.5.6 The order of events must be published in the meet announcement ~~prior to the meet~~ at least one week prior to the entry deadline. (See article 102.11 for change of program or postponement.)

Rationale: In the electronic era, hosts can sanction meets and publish information quickly, but there must be a sufficient amount of time to publish the information and provide swimmers with an opportunity to enter the meet in order to ensure that opportunities to compete are equitable.

R-6 102.6 and Glossary pages viii and 8 Rules Committee Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.6 Event Limit

(Preceding sections unchanged)

102.6.8 When a USMS meet is held as a dual-sanctioned meet with USA Swimming, swimmers must select one organization with which to compete for the entire meet. Dual membership cannot be used to exceed the daily event limit whether conducted as a dual-sanctioned meet or as separate meets on the same day.

Glossary

Dual-Sanctioned Meet—A USMS meet held simultaneously at the same venue on the same day with a USA Swimming sanctioned meet in which USMS members and USA Swimming athlete members are both in attendance. (See appendix B for examples of dual-sanctioned meet formats.)

Rationale: Codify the intent of the provisions captured in the agreement for dual-sanctioned meets in Appendix B and clarify event limitations for swimmers who are members of both organizations.

R-7 102.13.7 page 15 Arizona LMSC Add **Recommended as Amended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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102.13 Disqualifications

(Existing 102.13.1 through 102.13.6 are unchanged.)

102.13.7 A swimmer who completes a race may warm down in the assigned lane while the rest of the swimmers finish the heat and shall not be disqualified if that swimmer does not delay the start of the next heat.

(Renumber the remaining sections of article 102.13.)

Rationale: Clarify that the practice of warming down in an assigned lane following the completion of an event does not subject a swimmer to disqualification.

Note: Amended to insert the word “may” making it permissible, not mandatory.

R-8 103.4 page 17 Officials Committee Modify **Recommended as Amended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.4 Reporting of Officials and Meet Personnel

All officials ~~and meet personnel~~ accepting an invitation to work at a swim meet should arrive promptly and report immediately to the ~~meet director or~~ meet referee. All other meet personnel should report directly to the meet director or volunteer coordinator.

Rationale: To clarify roles and responsibilities for volunteers arriving at a swim meet. To avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

Note: Amended to strike the word “and” in the first sentence.

R-9 103.6.6 & 103.18 pages 18, 27-28 Rules Committee Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.6.6 The referee may assign two or more additional timers per lane dedicated to recording initial distances for USMS Top 10 purposes ~~or may assign three additional timers per lane to record initial distances for world records~~. The swimmer may request such additional timers for this purpose.

103.18.5 Records and Top 10 times using an Automatic Primary Timing System— Secondary and tertiary times may be used to determine the official time as follows when the automatic primary timing system fails, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed. See 103.17.3D for overhead video backup.

A World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by an automatic primary timing system.

B World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the automatic primary timing system fails if the times are reported by a semiautomatic secondary timing system using three, two, or one valid button(s).

~~**C** World records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system with three valid watch times.~~

~~D~~ USMS records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of two valid watch times.

~~EC~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of one valid watch time.

~~FD~~ An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records, USMS records, or USMS Top 10 times when reported by an automatic primary timing system.

~~GE~~ An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the automatic primary timing system fails and the times are reported by a ~~manual backup~~semiautomatic secondary timing system with three, two, or one valid ~~watch times~~buttons(s).

~~HF~~ USMS records shall not be established ~~for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using when the times are reported by~~ a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

~~IG~~ An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the primary timing system fails and the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times. Note: If the secondary system is manual watches (no semiautomatic system), the requirements listed in 103.18.5C-~~E~~ shall apply to the watch times.

103.18.6 Records and Top 10 times using a Semiautomatic Primary Timing System—
Semiautomatic times are used to determine the official time as follows (or backup times when the semiautomatic primary timing system fails), provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

~~A~~ World records may be established when the times are reported by a semiautomatic primary timing system with three valid button times.

~~B~~ USMS records may be established when timed by a three-button semi-automatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

~~CA~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when timed by a minimum two-button semiautomatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

~~D~~ World records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three valid watch times.

~~E~~ USMS records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three or two valid watch times.

~~FB~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when the minimum two-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three, two, or one valid watch times.

~~G~~ ~~An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when reported by a manual backup timing system with three valid watch times.~~

~~HC~~ USMS records shall not be established ~~for initial distances and relay leadoff legs~~ using a semiautomatic primary system or a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

~~ID~~ An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

103.18.7 **Records and Top 10 Times using a Manual Primary Timing System—**

Manual times are used to determine the official time as follows, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

~~A~~ ~~World records and USMS records may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with three valid watch times.~~

~~BA~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

~~C~~ ~~An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the times are reported by a manual primary system with three valid watch times.~~

~~DB~~ USMS records shall not be established ~~for initial distances and relay leadoff legs~~ using a manual primary timing system.

~~EC~~ An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual primary system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

Rationale: FINA and USA Swimming no longer accept records with times from manual and semiautomatic primary timing systems (buttons). Continuing to accept USMS records reported by these systems results in inequities in times recorded as USMS records. Watches are inherently inaccurate due to the impact of human reaction times at the start and finish. Note that this proposed change still permits semiautomatic backup systems (buttons) to establish records in the event of automatic primary timing system (touchpad) failures.

For example:

- A three-watch primary systems means that the intermediate time is recorded as the official time. Thus, a single watch time with reaction errors at the start and finish is considered equally as valid for records as a touchpad time.
- The intermediate watch time from a three-watch primary system is accepted for USMS records, but accurate two-button semiautomatic primary times are not accepted, even though arguably more accurate.

- Three-watch backup systems are not accepted for USMS records if a one or two button semiautomatic system is used and does not fail, but three-watch primary systems are accepted. Thus, an incentive exists to use watches if sufficient equipment is not available to run a three-button semiautomatic system.

In 2016, only 0.56% of USMS records were set with watches and only 0.97% of USMS records were set with semiautomatic primary systems.

Note: R-9 requires modifications to the table on page 29 for consistency.

	Automatic Primary Timing System	Semiautomatic Primary Timing System	Manual Primary Timing System
World Records	Touchpad time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Three valid buttons.	
	Manual backup time with three valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches.
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by a touchpad.		
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by <u>three valid watches (three, two, or one valid semiautomatic button(s) if the touchpad fails.</u>	Leadoff or initial split recorded by three valid watches	Leadoff or initial split recorded by three valid watches.
USMS Records	Touchpad time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Three-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B	
	Manual backup time with two valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Two valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by touchpad.		
USMS Top 10 Times	Touchpad Time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Two-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B	
	Manual backup time with one valid watch if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	One watch if the two-button semiautomatic system fails (no buttons)	Two valid watches
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches if the touchpad fails.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches.

R-10 103.8.5 page 19 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

103.8.5 Start Commands

- A** At the commencement of each heat, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they may take and maintain their positions with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform or the deck and remain there (article 101.1.1).

Swimmers starting in the water must take their positions on the wall with at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform and one foot in contact with the wall. In backstroke and medley relay events, at the referee's first long whistle, the swimmers shall immediately enter the water and at the second long whistle shall take their positions on the wall without undue delay (article 101.1.2).

Rationale: Consistency of references for the start commands. Article 101.1.2 is referenced for backstroke starts but we do not include the reference for the forward start commands.

R-11 103.8.6 page 20 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.8.6 False Starts

B If the starting signal has been given before the disqualification is declared, the race shall continue without recall. If the referee independently observes and confirms the starter's observation that a violation occurred, the swimmer(s) who have false started shall be disqualified upon completion of the race in accordance with article 102.13.~~2~~1.

Rationale: This reference is misplaced since 102.13.2 is the article that requires the referee to make reasonable efforts to seek out and notify the swimmer. 102.13.1 is the correct reference to dual confirmation procedures for relay take-offs.

R-12 103.12 page 23 Rules Committee Modify/Delete **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.12 Clerk of Course

The clerk of course shall be provided with a list of the names of all swimmers in all events, including relay swimmers in the order in which they will swim. If manual seeding is used, the clerk of course may assign heats and lanes.

Rationale: Clarify the duties of the clerk of course to reflect the purpose of this position.

R-13 103.18.2 page 26 Championship Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.18.2 Upon a recommendation from the meet host, the meet referee may approve the automatic recording of individual initial splits and relay leadoff splits without the requirement for a written request subject to the following conditions:

(Paragraphs A and B Unchanged)

C For national championship meets, ~~the meet referee may approve automatic splits with the concurrence of the USMS Championship Committee~~ automatic splits shall be automatically recorded in accordance with 103.18.2B.

Rationale: Update the rule to current practices, as relay leadoff splits have been automatically submitted for most of the last decade. Meet hosts will know this expectation at the time the bid is awarded rather than shown as an optional requirement.

R-14 103.18.7 page 28 Virginia LMSC Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.18.7 Records and Top 10 Times using a Manual Primary Timing System—
Manual times are used to determine the official time as follows, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

A World records and USMS records may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with three valid watch times. If a semiautomatic primary system is in use that does not satisfy the requirements of 103.18.6, a time reported by a manual backup system with three valid watch times may be used to establish a USMS record.

Rationale: Situations may exist where the lack of equipment makes it impossible to satisfy the requirements of 103.18.6 for a semiautomatic system, but it is possible to time potential record-setting swims with three watches to satisfy the requirements.

R-15 103.18.9 page 29 Rules Committee Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.18.9 Except when the primary system consists of watches, backup timing shall be provided for all competitors. No swimmer shall be required to reswim a race due to equipment failure that results in unrecorded or inaccurate time or place. It is the meet director's responsibility to provide the proper timing systems so that swimmers can expect to achieve official times that will satisfy the requirements of articles 103.18.5-103.18.7. The meet announcement shall state the primary timing system that will be used during the meet and whether that timing system satisfies the requirements for world records, USMS records, and USMS top 10 times. If a change in primary timing system is necessary, the meet director must ensure that all swimmers are notified of the change. If a semiautomatic or manual primary timing system is in use, the referee may assign additional timers to an individual lane in order to satisfy the requirements of 103.18.5-103.18.7.

Rationale: Require the meet director to inform swimmers of the expectation to achieve records and top 10 times based on the primary timing system in use.

The following change has also been submitted to the Legislation Committee to add a corresponding provision in part two for consistency:

202.1.1 Sanction Requirements—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form.

(Paragraphs (1) through (3) are unchanged).

(4) The meet information shall state the primary timing system that will be used during the meet and which requirements listed in 103.18.5-103.18.7 are expected to be satisfied for records and top 10.

(45) The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established by the House of Delegates. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

Rationale: Require the meet director to inform swimmers of the expectation to achieve records and top 10 times based on the primary timing system in use.

R-16 104.4 page 32 Officials Committee Add **Recommended as Amended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.4.6 Meet Referee Report - The meet referee of each national championship meet shall submit a written report to the chair of the Officials Committee within 60 days of the end of the competition. The report format and contents shall be defined by the Officials Committee.

Rationale: To require meet referees to report on elements of the competition which are important to the Officials Committee and Championship Committee. To improve the conduct of National Championship meet administration through continuous improvement.

***Note:** Amended to strike the specific report requirements and leave the report format to the discretion of the Officials Committee. Also changed 30 days to 60 days for consistency with the current 104.4.5.*

R-17 104.5.4 page 34 South Texas LMSC Modify **Not Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.4 Entry Procedures

A Eligibility/affiliation

Paragraph (1) is unchanged.

(2) **Foreign swimmers**—National championship meets shall include and welcome foreign swimmers, except that they may not qualify for USMS Top 10 and All-American awards nor set USMS records. Foreign swimmers must represent a club from their FINA member federation and may not represent a USMS club.

Rationale: Foreign swimmers are permitted to join USMS clubs and score points at National Championships which creates a competitive advantage, especially when joining relay teams, which score double points.

R-18 104.5.5 page 35 Championship Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see article 102.10)
(Paragraphs 1-7 unchanged)

(8) In situations where all seeding rules cannot be simultaneously met, the seeding of these heats may diverge slightly from the general procedures, with the concurrence of the Championship Committee-~~liaison~~.

Rationale: Maintain consistency with the rest of 104.5.5, were all other references to “the Championship Committee” do not call out a specific member.

R-19 104.5.10 page 38 Officials Committee Modify **Recommended as Amended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.10B Officials--The meet host may nominate a meet referee with the approval of the chair of the Officials Committee for national championship meets according to Officials Committee policy.; If there are no nominations from the meet host, the chair of the Officials Committee shall appoint the meet referee. The meet referee shall develop a leadership team (an administrative referee, a head starter, and a team lead chief judge); subject to qualification standards established by the USMS Officials Committee and submit to the chair of the Officials Committee for approval.

Rationale: To provide for the Officials Committee to develop a process for ensuring officials development and improve the overall quality of officiating throughout USMS, beginning with our national championships. To provide for the meet referee to ensure the meet’s leadership team for the competition is consistent with the Officials Committee plan. This proposal also provides a process for ensuring the stakeholders of USMS are considered in developing this leadership team.

Note: Amended to modify the responsibilities, permitting the meet host to nominate the meet referee with Officials Committee Chair approval.

R-20 106.3 page 45 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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106.3 Racing Course Walls

106.3.1 Permanent Course—Walls enclosing the racing course shall be parallel and vertical. The end walls shall be at a right angle to the water surface and shall be constructed of solid material with a nonslip surface that extends no less than .8 meter (2 feet, 7½ inches) below the water surface. ~~It is recommended that a toe rest ledge be provided at approximately 4 foot depth in the walls of the deep water race course.~~ [M]

Rationale: This rule serves no practical effect since the rule cannot be enforced once the pool has been constructed. There is no corresponding rule in USA Swimming rules. FINA rules state that ledges are permitted, but that recessed ledges are recommended.

HOUSEKEEPING CHANGES

H-1 Glossary page xiii Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Glossary

FINA—Fédération Internationale de Natation (International Federation of Swimming).

Rationale: Housekeeping to correct misspelling.

H-2 103.2.1 page 17 Rules Committee Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.2.1 Officials

A One referee—The referee may also serve as a stroke and turn judge but shall not serve as starter.

B One starter—The starter may also serve as stroke and turn judge.

C Two stroke and turn judges—At least two people shall perform these duties during competition.

Note: USMS sanctioned meets approved for observation of swims by USA Swimming require a minimum of four officials: one referee, one starter, and a minimum of two stroke and turn judges who are not serving in another capacity.

Rationale: USA Swimming R-2 changes the language in USA-Swimming 202.7 for observed swims conducted at meets which do not use USA Swimming technical rules. Because changes to part two of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations are not automatically considered, a housekeeping change is necessary to inform meet directors of this requirement. **This change can be withdrawn if USA Swimming R-2 does not pass at the USA-Swimming HOD in 2017.**

H-3 103.11.1 page 22 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.11 Timers

103.11.1 Chief Timer—The chief timer shall:

A ~~Assure~~ **Ensure** the assignment of lane timers to lanes and the designation of one timer on each lane to be the head lane timer.

B On the starting signal, start a watch(es) on every race. The time of this watch shall be used if a lane timer's watch fails.

C Be responsible for delivering all stopwatch times, including those of disqualified swimmers, to the ~~timing judge~~ administrative official.

Rationale: Timing Judges have been replaced with Administrative Officials. Also correct for proper word usage.

H-4 104.5 page 32 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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104.5.2 Format—A four-day or five-day national championship meet shall be conducted. The Championship Committee shall set the order of events for each national championship meet.

A A national championship meet format ~~schedule~~ shall not be repeated for at least two years.

B The Championship Committee shall publish the meet format ~~schedule~~ no less than six months before the national championship meet begins.

Rationale: Housekeeping for language consistency. We changed “schedule” to the more commonly used “format” in the preamble to 104.5.2 in 2016, but did not make the change elsewhere in this section.

H-5 106.15 page 48 Rules Committee Modify **Recommended**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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106.15 Loudspeaker Starting System

An electronic sound-generating device shall be provided to give the starting and recall signal. Loudspeakers may be mounted underneath or on the side of each starting platform, between every two platforms, on each side of the racing course, or positioned behind the starting platforms in such a manner that equitable dispersion of sound to all lanes is assured. The device shall also activate a strobe light or similar visual signal located on the starter’s side of the course approximately 15 feet forward from the starting end, to indicate the start to manual timers and deaf and hard of hearing swimmers (also see article 107~~8~~3). The starting system may include an underwater recall speaker and final-lap signal option. [NC]

Rationale: Housekeeping to correct reference to article 107.

CHANGES TO CONFORM TO FINA RULES

Pursuant to USMS Article 601.4.8, if amendments to the FINA Masters Technical Rules are adopted between annual meetings of the House of Delegates, the corresponding portions of Part 1 shall be automatically adopted by USMS, except that such amendments may be altered, amended, repealed, or changed by a nine-tenths vote of the Rules Committee and a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

The following changes were approved by the FINA Technical Congress on July 21, 2017 and are effective September 21, 2017.

F-1 101.3.3 page 3 Modify

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Pending language to amend the butterfly kick rule. After reviewing the final changes and determining that the amended rule does not result in a substantive change, no change in language is required to USMS rules.

F-2 101.6 page 4 Modify

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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Changes approved by FINA to modify the interpretation of freestyle in an individual medley or medley relay event. The change means that swimmers must return to a position on the breast before any propulsive movement (kick or stroke). The change permits swimmers to leave the wall while on the back during the freestyle leg of an individual medley or medley relay event without being subject to disqualification. Being on the back at any other time during the freestyle leg of an individual medley or medley relay event is still an infraction subject to disqualification.

101.6 Individual Medley

The swimmer shall swim the prescribed distance in the following order: the first one-fourth, butterfly; the second one-fourth, backstroke; the third one-fourth, breaststroke; and the last one-fourth, freestyle.

101.6.1 Start—The forward start shall be used.

101.6.2 Stroke—The stroke for each one-fourth of the designated distance shall follow the prescribed rules for that stroke, except that in the freestyle, the swimmer must be on the breast except when executing a turn.

101.6.3 Turns

A Intermediate turns within each stroke shall conform to the turn rules for that stroke, except that in the freestyle turn, the swimmer must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.

B The turns when changing from one stroke to another shall conform to the finish rules for the stroke just completed, and shall be as follows:

- (1) **Butterfly to backstroke**—The swimmer must touch as described in article 101.3.5. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the back when the swimmer leaves the wall.
- (2) **Backstroke to breaststroke**—The swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner, but the shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall and the prescribed breaststroke form must be attained prior to the first arm stroke.
- (3) **Breaststroke to freestyle**—The swimmer must touch as described in article 101.2.4. Once a legal touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner and must return to the breast before any kick or stroke.

101.7.1 Medley Relay—Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance in the following order: first, backstroke; second, breaststroke; third, butterfly; fourth, freestyle. Rules pertaining to each stroke as described in 101.6 (Individual Medley) ~~used~~ shall govern ~~where applicable~~. At the end of each leg, the finish rules for that stroke apply.

F-3 103.6.6 & 103.18 pages 18, 27-28 Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Withdrawn Pulled

Changes to FINA rules that eliminate acceptance of world records using manual or semiautomatic primary timing systems. This change reflects only the FINA changes affecting world records while R-9 considers a corresponding change for USMS records.

103.6.6 The referee may assign two or more additional timers per lane dedicated to recording initial distances for USMS Top 10 purposes ~~or may assign three additional timers per lane to record initial distances for world records~~. The swimmer may request such additional timers for this purpose.

103.18.5 Records and Top 10 times using an Automatic Primary Timing System—Secondary and tertiary times may be used to determine the official time as follows when the automatic primary timing system fails, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed. See 103.17.3D for overhead video backup.

A World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by an automatic primary timing system.

B World records, USMS records, and USMS Top 10 times may be established when the automatic primary timing system fails if the times are reported by a semiautomatic secondary timing system using three, two, or one valid button(s).

~~C~~ World records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system with three valid watch times.

~~DC~~ USMS records may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of two valid watch times.

~~ED~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when both the automatic primary and semiautomatic secondary systems fail (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual tertiary system using a minimum of one valid watch time.

~~FE~~ An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records, USMS records, or USMS Top 10 times when reported by an automatic primary timing system.

~~GF~~ An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the automatic primary timing system fails ~~and-if~~ the times are reported by a ~~manual backup semiautomatic secondary~~ timing system ~~with-using~~ three, two, or one valid ~~watch-button(s)times~~.

~~HG~~ USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

~~IH~~ An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the primary timing system fails and the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times. Note: If the secondary system is manual watches (no semiautomatic system), the requirements listed in 103.18.5C-~~DE~~ shall apply to the watch times.

103.18.7 Records and Top 10 times using a Semiautomatic Primary Timing System—
Semiautomatic times are used to determine the official time as follows (or backup times when the semiautomatic primary timing system fails), provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

~~A~~ World records may be established when the times are reported by a ~~semiautomatic primary timing system with three valid button times~~.

~~BA~~ USMS records may be established when timed by a three-button semiautomatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

~~CB~~ USMS Top 10 times may be established when timed by a minimum two-button semiautomatic primary timing system and the times are reported by three, two, or one valid button times.

~~D~~ World records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three valid watch times.

EC USMS records may be established when the three-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three or two valid watch times.

FD USMS Top 10 times may be established when the minimum two-button semiautomatic primary system fails (no valid button times) if the times are reported by a manual backup system with three, two, or one valid watch times.

~~**G** An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when reported by a manual backup timing system with three valid watch times.~~

HE USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual backup system when the primary system fails.

IF An initial distance or relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual backup timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

103.18.8 Records and Top 10 Times using a Manual Primary Timing System—

Manual times are used to determine the official time as follows, provided the procedures in 103.17.3B are followed.

~~**A** World records and USMS records may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with three valid watch times.~~

BA USMS Top 10 times may be established when the times are reported by a manual primary timing system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

~~**C** An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish world records when the times are reported by a manual primary system with three valid watch times.~~

DB USMS records shall not be established for initial distances and relay leadoff legs using a manual primary timing system.

EC An initial distance or a relay leadoff leg may be used to establish USMS Top 10 times when the times are reported by a manual primary system with a minimum of two valid watch times.

Note: F-3 also requires modification to the reference table on page 29 for consistency

	Automatic Primary Timing System	Semiautomatic Primary Timing System	Manual Primary Timing System
World Records	Touchpad time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Three valid buttons.	
	Manual backup time with three valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches.
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by a touchpad.		
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by three valid watches <u>three, two, or one valid semiautomatic button(s)</u> if the touchpad fails.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by three valid watches.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by three valid watches.
USMS Records	Touchpad time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Three-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B	
	Manual backup time with two valid watches if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Two valid watches if the three-button semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	Three valid watches
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by touchpad.		
USMS Top 10 Times	Touchpad Time		
	Semiautomatic backup time with three, two, or one valid button(s) if the touchpad fails.	Two-button system with a time calculated using the procedure in 103.17.3B	
	Manual backup time with one valid watch if the semiautomatic system fails (no valid buttons).	One watch if the two-button semiautomatic system fails (no buttons)	Two valid watches
	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches if the touchpad fails.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches.	Leadoff or initial split recorded by two valid watches.

USA SWIMMING AMMENDMENTS THAT AFFECT USMS RULES

Pursuant to article 601.4.7, Amendments to USA Swimming articles 101, 102, and 105 shall automatically be adopted by USMS unless the USMS House of Delegates votes to reject those amendments.

The following amendments are pending action by USA Swimming at the 2017 convention and will be submitted to the House of Delegates with the recommendation of the Rules Committee following action by the USA Swimming House of Delegates.

U-1 101.7 page 5 Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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101.7.2 Rules Pertaining to Relays

No changes to current A-G.

H On relays, the second, third, and fourth swimmers are prohibited from starting from the top of the adjustable setting back plate. A swimmer must have at least one foot in contact with the starting platform in front of the adjustable setting back plate.

Rationale: Clarify that relay swimmers are not permitted to start from the back plate on top of the starting platform, which could create a safety concern.

U-2 103.11 pages 21-21 Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.11.2 Chief Timer—The chief timer shall:

- D** Assure the assignment of lane timers to lanes and the designation of one timer on each lane to be the head lane timer.
- E** On the starting signal, start a watch(es) on every race. The time of this watch shall be used if a lane timer's watch fails.
- F** Be responsible for delivering all stopwatch times, including those of disqualified swimmers, to the ~~timing judge~~administrative official.

Rationale: Update terminology – the “timing judge” position no longer exists.

U-3 103.17.3 page 24 Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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103.17.3 Determination of Official Time

- A Automatic timing**—When recorded by properly operating automatic timing equipment, the pad time shall be the official time.

B Semiautomatic or manual timing—Whenever semiautomatic or manual timing is used, only valid times shall be used in calculating the official time. The times shall be determined as follows:

- (1) If two of the three valid button times or two of the three valid watch times agree, the time of the two buttons or two watches in agreement shall be the time for that timing system.
- (2) If three valid button times or three valid watch times disagree, the time of the intermediate button or intermediate watch shall be the time for that timing system.
- (3) If only two valid button times or two valid watch times are available, the average of the two button times or the average of the two watch times shall be the time for that timing system. The digits representing thousandths of a second shall be dropped with no rounding.
- (4) If only one ~~valid~~ button or one ~~valid~~ watch time is available, the time of that button or watch shall be the time for that timing system ~~provided it is supported by other information unless that time conflicts with other information. If such a conflict exists, the administrative official shall gather as much data as possible and determine the time.~~

Rationale: To provide additional guidance in the determination of official time.

Pursuant to article 601.4.7, Amendments to USA Swimming articles 103, “Facility Standards,” may be recommended by the Rules Committee for adoption by the USMS House of Delegates.

The following amendments are pending action by USA Swimming at the 2017 convention and will be submitted to the House of Delegates.

U-4 106.11 page 46 Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	Pulled
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106.11.3 Size and Slope of Platform—The top surface of the starting platform shall be not less than .50 by .50 meters (20 inches by 20 inches) and shall slope not more than 10 degrees from the horizontal. It may have an adjustable-setting back plate. The entire surface of the platform shall be faced with permanent nonslip material. Handgrips for the forward start may be installed on the sides of the starting platform. [M]

Rationale: Differentiate between grips used for backstroke and forward starts. 101.1.2B references starting grips for backstroke starts, so the clarification means that swimmers cannot use grips specifically installed for the forward start when performing a backstroke start.

Updated Rules Committee Agenda for the 2017 USMS Convention after Pre-Convention Actions

Thursday, September 14, Rules #1, 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Approve minutes from 8/27 conference call

Consider Rules Proposals:

- R-2 Age Policies for Other Organizations
- R-3 25-yard and 25-meter events
- Comments from Floor on Additional Proposals
- Begin discussion on R-6 Dual-Sanction Meets

Friday, September 15, Rules #2, 8:00 to 9:15 a.m.

R-6 Dual-Sanctioned Meets

R-9 and R-14 Semiautomatic and Watch Times for Records

R-15 Specify the Primary Timing System in the Meet Announcement

Friday, September 15, Rules #3, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m.

- Updated Disability Guidelines
- Differences Sections
- Interactions with Officials at National Championships
- Situations and Resolutions
- Rules Committee Blog
- Interpreting Part One in Between Committee Meetings

Rest of Friday, September 15 House of Delegates Meeting

The afternoon HOD meeting will include a forum to hear comments from delegates on the following proposals:

- R-9 Acceptance of USMS Records using semiautomatic and manual primary timing systems.
- R-3 Inclusion of 25-yard and 25-meter events as conforming events.
- R-6 Dual-Sanctioned Meets

Saturday, September 16, Rules #4, 1:00 to 1:30 p.m.

- Changes from USA Swimming: H-2, U-1, U-2, U-3, and U-4

Proposed Changes to the USMS Open Water and Long Distance Swimming Rules

In accordance with section 601.1.4, the Long Distance Committee has approved and submits the following 44 proposals for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2017 Convention:

- Proposals of major substance are LD 8, 18, and 19.
- Proposals of some substance are LD 3, 6, 11, 15, 20, 22, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 34, 38, and 42.
- Housekeeping proposals (corrections and non-substantive language improvement) are LD 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 21, 25, 29, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 39, 40, 41, 43, and 44.

LD 1	302.1.3		page 68	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

302.1.3 At the discretion of the event host, open water events may be competitive (article 303) and/or noncompetitive (article 304).

Rationale: Housekeeping: to assist officials, this proposal lists the pertinent article for each category of swims.

LD 2	302.2.2A (3)		page 68	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

A (3) A swim of 5 kilometers or greater shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 85° Fahrenheit (29.45° Celsius). A swim of less than 5 kilometers shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 87.8° Fahrenheit (31° ~~Celsis~~Celsius).

Rationale: Housekeeping: correcting misspelling.

LD 3	302.2.3		page 68	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

302.2.3 Starting Line

B Water depth ~~f~~For swims starting from a platform (~~, or~~ dock, pier, or ship):

(1) For platforms .75 meter or less above the water surface, the water depth shall be no less than ~~6 feet~~ 2 meters for the first 5 meters of the course.

(2) For platforms more than .75 meter above the water surface, the water depth shall be a safe depth for the first 5 meters of the course as determined by the referee. Swimmers must enter the water feet first.

(3) All swimmers in the pre-race safety meeting and before the start of each race/wave shall be advised of the depth of the water. Water depth markings on the starting platform or dock are recommended. Before the swim, Tthe referee shall have this start area inspected for underwater hazards ~~before the swim~~ and ensure that the starting protocol

is safe. The swim shall use an alternative method of starting if hazards cannot be eliminated or the start cannot be safe.

Rationale: Platform, pier, or dock height may vary considerably for swims that start from such objects, and our current 6-foot depth rule does not ensure that there would be sufficient depth or safe method of entry as swimmers enter the water. This proposal will make these starts safer. Note that this proposal is substantively separate from but not contradictory to the following proposal.

LD 4	302.2.3		page 68	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	

302.2.3 Starting Line

- B** For swims starting from a platform or dock, the water depth shall be no less than 6 feet for the first 5 meters of the course. The referee shall inform All swimmers in the pre-race safety meeting and before the start of each race/wave shall be advised of the water depth at the start of the water....

Rationale: Housekeeping: Substitutes active voice for passive voice and removes redundant phrase. Note that this proposal is substantively separate from but not contradictory to the preceding proposal.

LD 5	302.2.4		page 68	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	

302.2.4 Turns

- B** Turn buoys shall be ~~directional, and~~ passed on the right or left as stated in the pre-swim instructions.
- C** Guide buoys may be used between turns to help swimmers navigate. ~~These buoys shall be non-directional and~~ swimmers may pass these buoys on either side, except for floats on a straightaway swim course or when otherwise directed by the referee.

Rationale: Housekeeping: unnecessary and confusing words.

LD 6	302.2.5		page 68	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn	

302.2.5 Finish Line

- A** The finish line shall be specifically designated, ~~and clearly defined,~~ and easily visible from the water to swimmers approaching the finish.

Rationale: This proposal would require that finish lines are easily visible from the water, an important consideration that is not included in the present rule.

LD 7 302.5.2 page 70 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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302.5.2 Mixed-gender sequential relays shall consist of at least one swimmer of each gender ~~is represented~~, as follows: ...

Rationale: Housekeeping: removes unnecessary phrase.

LD 8 303.2.2 page 71 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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303.2.2 Swims must conform to the written and approved safety plan, except where conditions warrant modification.

Rationale: USMS requires a safety plan in 303.2.1 (and has created a process to review those plans), but there is no mandate in the current rules to follow that plan. The event host should be required to follow it, as conditions warrant.

LD 9 303.3.1 page 71 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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303.3.1 In any event for which it has been arranged that an escort craft will accompany each swimmer throughout the event, all swimmers shall be accompanied by such an escort craft. If the escort craft becomes disabled or cannot continue to accompany the swimmer, the swimmer may stay in the water near the disabled escort craft until a replacement arrives, join another escort craft that is accompanying only one other swimmer until another escort craft arrives, or exit the water.

Rationale: Housekeeping: adding the oxford comma makes this long sentence clearer and less ambiguous.

LD 10 303.3.2 page 71 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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303.3.2 Swimmers may receive the following assistance from any escort craft:

- A** Food or drink may be passed from escort craft to swimmer as long as deliberate contact is not made between the two.
- B** The escort craft may ~~also~~ assist the swimmer with navigation, including verbal and written communication.

Rationale: Housekeeping: unnecessary word.

LD 11 303.3.5 page 71 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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303.3.5 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and motorized escorts are allowed, drafting from any craft or other swimmers is prohibited. Swimmers must attempt to remain 3 meters or more from other swimmers, except when rounding buoys, when overtaking other

swimmers when space is not readily available, when unescorted at the start and finish of the swim, and when the swimmer's escort craft becomes disabled as per articles 301.3.1 and 303.3.4. Incidental or accidental incursion into the 3-meter zone of another swimmer shall not be the basis for disqualification.

Rationale: This clarifies that ALL drafting is prohibited in this situation, which was the original intent of this rule.

LD 12	303.3.6		page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.3.6 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and non-motorized escorts are used, the event ~~director~~ host may choose to allow drafting or prohibit drafting in accordance with article 303.3.5.

Rationale: Housekeeping: Rationale: Properly speaking, the duties and responsibilities in each of these articles belong to the event host, for whom the event director is usually (but not always) the acting agent. Therefore, this change provides more precise rules language than the previous language.

LD 13	303.5.1		page 72	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.5.1 When practical, swimmers shall be seeded by their 1500 meters/1650 yards times. The manner of seeding swimmers without times shall be at the discretion of the event host, ~~as~~ and stated in the event information.

Rationale: Housekeeping: clearer language.

LD 14	303.7		page 73	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.7 SWIMWEAR FOR OPEN WATER EVENTS

Swimwear allowed for open water events is defined below ~~and is not impacted by decisions of FINA, USA Swimming, or Part 1 of USMS rules.~~ It is the swimmer's responsibility to understand the appropriate swimwear allowed at a particular event.

Rationale: Housekeeping: unnecessary rules language.

LD 15	303.7.2A		page 73	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.7.2 Rules for Category I Swimwear for Open Water Events

A Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap or caps (including those made of neoprene when the water temperature is not greater than 78 degrees Fahrenheit), and goggles. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not

extend to protect the neck and shoulders. Nose clips, ear plugs, and wristwatches, ~~and grease~~ are also allowed.

Rationale: Grease should not be considered swimwear. Not being listed as prohibited, it would be allowed.

LD 16	303.8.1A (5)	page 74	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

A Event Director—The event director is responsible for the overall operation of the event. The event director shall be responsible for: ...

- (5) Advising the referee to modify the manner in which the swim is conducted, change the course and/or distance, delay the start, and/or stop a swim in progress ~~due~~ if circumstances warrant.

Rationale: Housekeeping: removes unnecessary word.

LD 17	303.8.1B & C	pages 74-5	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

B Safety Director—The safety director is responsible for overseeing all aspects of event safety. The position of safety director shall not be combined with the duties of any other staff member or official. The safety director shall be responsible for: ...

- (6) ~~Has the authority to delay~~ Delaying the start and/or stopping a swim in progress if circumstances warrant.

C Referee—The referee is responsible for the fair conduct of the swim. The referee ~~...~~ shall be responsible for:

- (1) ~~Shall have authority over all~~ officials, including instructing and assigning officials, enforceing all applicable rules, deciding all questions related to the conduct of the swim, and adjudicating protests.
- (2) ~~Shall ensure~~ Ensuring that all swimmers are briefed about safety procedures, the course, site-specific rules, and other necessary information about the conduct of the swim.
- (3) ~~Has the authority to bar~~ Barring, ~~remove~~ removing, or ~~take~~ taking other appropriate action with any swimmer who acts in an ~~unsportsmanlike~~ unsporting or unsafe manner within the swimming venue.
- (4) ~~Has the authority to disqualify~~ Disqualifying any swimmer violating event or USMS rules or safety procedures.
- (5) ~~Has the authority to modify~~ Modifying the manner in which the swim is conducted, ~~change~~ changing the course or distance, ~~delay~~ delaying the start, or ~~stop~~ stopping a swim in progress if circumstances warrant.

Rationale: Housekeeping: maintaining parallel structure throughout 303.8.1 and substituting

gender neutral wording.

LD 18	303.8.3 new		page 75	Long Distance Committees	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.8.3 Safety directors and referees shall be certified in these capacities by a USMS-approved certifying body. If a certified official becomes indisposed, other officials or staff may perform the duties of such positions if they receive training in the specified duties of their positions and are under the direct supervision of the event director.

Rationale: Using similar language to 103.3, this proposal seeks to ensure uniform and high-quality safe and fair USMS-sanctioned swims. The USMS Open Water Committee has developed a certifying process (taking a short on-line course and a submitting a written test) for safety directors that was successfully throughout 2017, and has developed a similar process for referees for introduction in 2018. The emergency clause seeks to avoid incurring potential liability if a safety director or referee becomes indisposed.

LD 19	303.9/303.3.2A/303.3.3A		pages 75 & 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.9 DISQUALIFICATIONS

A disqualification can be made only by the referee, the starter or a judge within whose jurisdiction the infraction has been committed. Swimmers shall be disqualified if they: ...

303.9.5 ~~Receive assistance~~ Make forward progress by pulling; pushing; ~~or resting, or maintaining contact on physical features and/or craft on or near the course, other than the bottom near the start and finish and at specified locations.~~ ~~Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.~~

Rationale: This proposal...

- (1) specifies the intent of 'receiving assistance' to be 'making forward progress';*
- (2) treats craft as a physical feature for the sake of this rule; and*
- (3) removes resting on a stationary object as a disqualifying offense, for swimmer safety.*

AND

303.3 ESCORTED SWIMS ...

303.3.2 Swimmers may receive the following assistance from any escort craft:

A Food or drink may be passed from escort craft to swimmer ~~as long as deliberate contact is not made between the two.~~

B ...

303.3.3 Swimmers shall not receive the following assistance from any escort craft:

A Swimmers shall not receive ~~flotation or propulsion~~ forward progress from any escort craft ~~nor make intentional contact with any craft.~~

Rationale: This proposal aligns 303.3.2A and 303.3.3A with proposed 303.9.5, and should be

considered as a single item.

LD 20	303.11/303.11.1	page 76	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.11 INCOMPLETE RACE SWIM

303.11.1 The event director, safety director, or referee shall have the authority to determine if the start of a race is to be postponed. The referee and/or safety director shall have the authority to stop a race in progress. Only the event director shall have the authority to cancel ~~the~~ a swim or event.

Rationale: This allows event directors to cancel a swim without necessarily canceling a multi-swim event.

LD 21	303.11.2	page 76	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.11.2 If a race is stopped and swimmers are removed from the water for their safety, the referee shall determine if the race is to be restarted, ~~canceled~~, or considered official. If the referee determines the race to be official, article 303.9.2 may be waived and the referee shall determine the order of finish of the swimmers on the course.

Rationale: Housekeeping: removing a conflict with 303.11.1, which states that only the event director may cancel an event.

LD 22	303.11.3	page 76	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.11.3 In swims with cutoff times, the entry information shall state whether swimmers who have not finished by the cutoff time will be advanced to the finish line, considered to be officially finished, or disqualified.

Rationale: Finish status for these circumstances should be determined long before the swim and clearly stated before entry.

LD 23	303.12.1	page 76	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

303.12.1 Any protest arising from an open water event ~~competition~~—(other than National Championships—refer to article 307.7.9) shall be made to the ~~event director-referee~~ within 30 minutes after the release of results at the venue for an open water event. If results are not released in a timely manner, a protest may be made to the event director in writing within 3 days after all swimmers are notified of the release of results. If the protest is not resolved, the protester may appeal in writing ~~within 10 days of the swim for adjudication promptly~~ to the LMSC. If the LMSC does not satisfactorily resolve the protest, the protestor may appeal in

writing ~~for adjudication~~ promptly to the USMS Long Distance Committee chair.

Rationale: This proposal creates a standard path for protests for non-championship open water swims that is comprehensive, clear, and fair to all, using parallel wording (where applicable) to proposed 305.8 and 307.7.9.

- (1) Under 303.8.1C, “The referee is responsible for the fair conduct of the swim”, so the referee—not the event director—should be responsible for resolving protests at an open water venue (this change is also proposed in 307.7.9 for national championship events).*
- (2) If open water event results are delayed at the venue, it adds a mechanism for protest by directing protests after the event and away from the venue to the event director.*
- (3) It shortens the time frame for protest to 3 days after swimmers have been notified of the release of results.*
- (4) It gives flexibility to the time frame for appeals.*
- (5) It eliminates redundant phrasing—“appeal” implies “adjudication”*
- (6) It adds a path for protests—previously nonexistent—for non-championship long distance pool events (which include non-championship postals).*

LD 24	304.1		page 76	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

304.1 NONCOMPETITIVE SWIMS

Noncompetitive swims are those in which ~~time or swimmer placement may be recorded~~ is not included in results.

Rationale: Definitional clarity. This also resolves potential conflict between 304.1 and 304.1.2.

LD 25	305.4/305.5		page 77	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

305.4 CUMULATIVE RELAYS

Cumulative relays are composed of groups of swimmers from the same USMS-registered club entered in the individual swim. Cumulative relay swims may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

305.5 SEQUENTIAL RELAYS

Sequential relays shall consist of two or more swimmers from the same USMS-registered club as specified in the entry information. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified in the entry information. The composition of mixed-gender sequential relays is governed by 302.5.2. Relay exchanges are governed by articles 101.7.3C and 101.7.3H.

Rationale: Housekeeping: maintaining parallel language with 302, which refer to sequential relays in open water events.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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305.8 PROTESTS

Any protest arising from a long distance pool event (other than National Championships—refer to article 307.7.9) shall be made to the referee within 30 minutes after the release of results at the venue. If results are not released in a timely manner, a protest may be made to the event director in writing within 3 days after all swimmers are notified of the release of results. If the protest is not resolved, the protester may appeal in writing promptly to the LMSC. If the LMSC does not satisfactorily resolve the protest, the protestor may appeal in writing promptly to the USMS Long Distance Committee chair.

Rationale: This proposal creates a standard path for protests—previously nonexistent—for non-championship long distance pool events that is comprehensive, clear, and fair to all, using parallel wording (where applicable) to proposed 303.12 and 307.7.9.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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306.4 ELIGIBILITY

All swimmers in national championship postal events must be currently registered members of USMS or a FINA-member national governing body on or before the day of their swim.

AND

307.7.4 Eligibility

A Swimmers with one-event registrations shall not be eligible to compete in open water and postal national championships, nor shall they be eligible for records, All-American status, or any other USMS special awards.

~~**B** All swimmers in national championship postal events must be currently registered members of USMS or a FINA-member national governing body on or before the day of their swim.~~

Rationale: Section 307.7.4B should be moved to 306.4 because this requirement applies to all postal swims—not just national championships—and thus should be moved to the “Conduct of Postal Swims” section. Renumber after 306.4.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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306.4 MULTIPLE SWIMMERS PER LANE

~~**304.4.1** In pools that are less than 50 meters, n~~ No more than two swimmers shall share a lane.

306.4.2 Drafting shall not be permitted.

306.4.3 When two swimmers are sharing the same lane, they shall conform to articles 102.10.4A(6)(a)-(b).

306.4.4 ~~In pools that are 50 meters or longer, the referee shall establish procedures to prevent drafting if more than two swimmers are sharing a lane.~~

Rationale: When more than two swimmers share a lane, the LDC finds it difficult to imagine any practical procedures that would prevent drafting. Therefore, this proposal would eliminate this issue by limiting the number of swimmers who could share a lane to two.

LD 29	306.9.1		page 79	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

306.9.1 Each entrant shall be responsible for the validity of the split times and/or the final time/distance submitted.

Rationale: Housekeeping: improving clarity.

LD 30	306.10.1/306.10.2		page 79	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

306.10.1 In distance-based events, the person or relay swimming the fastest time shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers or relays achieve the same time, a tie shall be declared.

306.10.2 In time-based events, the person or relay swimming the farthest shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers or relays swim the same distance, a tie shall be declared.

Rationale: This corrects the previous omission of a method of determining place for relays in postal events.

LD 31	307.2.2G-I		page 80	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.2.2 At the discretion of the Long Distance Committee, national championship events may be awarded in the following categories: ...

G Postal one hour Championship (in a pool 25 yards or longer)

H Postal 5 and 10 kilometer Championships (each event swum separately on a 50-meter course in a pool)

I Postal 3000 and 6000 yard Championships (each event swum separately on a 25-yard or 25-meter course in a pool)

Rationale: Housekeeping: parallel wording with 307.2.2A-F.

LD 32	307.2.3A		page 80	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

A Cumulative relay competitions shall be contested in postal championships and may be contested in other championships. Recognized relays shall be three-person women's relays, ~~and three-person~~ men's relays, and four-person mixed gender relays with two women and

two men. Exceptions for open water national championships may be granted by the Long Distance Committee chair.

Rationale: Housekeeping: removing ambiguity of the previous wording.

LD 33	307.7.5 & 6		page 82	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.7.5 Individual Age Groups—Age groups in individual open water swims for men and women shall be 18-24, 25-29, 30-34 ... (five-year age groups as high as necessary) the standard USMS age groups in article 303.1.3.

307.7.6 Relay Age Groups—Age groups in relay open water swims for men, women and mixed relays shall be 18+, 25+... (10-year age groups as high as necessary), the age of the youngest relay member determining the age group.

Rationale: Housekeeping: combining articles for conciseness and lack of repetition with 303.1.3. Renumber after.

LD 34	307.7.9		page 83	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.7.9 Protests

A Any protest arising from an open water championship event ~~competition~~ shall be made to the ~~event director~~ referee within 30 minutes after the release of results at the venue ~~for an open water event~~. If results are not released in a timely manner, a protest may be made to the event director in writing within 3 days after all swimmers are notified of the release of results. If the protest is not resolved, the protester may appeal in writing ~~within 10 days for adjudication~~ promptly to the Long Distance Committee chair.

B Any protest arising from a postal championship event shall be made to the event director in writing within 3 or 14 days after all swimmers are notified of the release of results for a postal event. If the protest is not resolved, the protester may appeal in writing ~~within 10 days for adjudication~~ promptly to the Long Distance Committee chair.

Rationale: this proposal creates a standard path for protests for all championship swims that is comprehensive, clear, and fair to all, using parallel wording (where applicable) to proposed 303.12 and 305.8.

- (1) Under 303.8.1C, “The referee is responsible for the fair conduct of the swim”, so the referee—not the event director—should be responsible for resolving protests at an open water venue. Since postal swims do not have referees for the overall event, the event director would remain responsible for resolving protests for postal swims.
- (2) If open water event results are delayed at the venue, it adds a mechanism for protest by directing protests after the event and away from the venue to the event director.

- (3) *It shortens the time frame for protest to 3 days after swimmers have been notified of the release of results.*
- (4) *It gives flexibility to the time frame for appeals.*
- (5) *It eliminates redundant phrasing—"appeal" implies "adjudication"*

LD 35	307.10.3		page 84	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.10.3 A USMS championship patch shall be awarded to each individual champion and each ~~scoring~~ member of a championship relay. An individual champion shall receive only one patch per event.

Rationale: Housekeeping: removing unnecessary and potentially confusing word.

LD 36	307.11.2		page 84	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.11.2 The members of the highest placing USMS ~~team~~ relay in each age group of each open water and long distance pool national championship event shall qualify as USMS Long Distance Relay All-Americans.

Rationale: Housekeeping: throughout the part 3 rules, the LDC has replaced the word "team" with the word "relay" in this context.

LD 37	307.11.3		page 84	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.11.3 The event host shall submit the name, age, date of birth, club affiliation, time or distance, and USMS membership number for each competitor achieving All-American status to the Long Distance Committee chair ~~in accordance with the USMS event contract.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping: removing unnecessary wording.

LD 38	307.12.1		page 85	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn

307.12.1 A swimmer shall earn points in each open water and long distance national championship event in the following manner: 1st: ~~22~~ 11 points, 2nd: ~~18~~ 9 points, 3rd: ~~16~~ 8 points, 4th: ~~14~~ 7 points, 5th: ~~12~~ 6 points, 6th: ~~10~~ 5 points, 7th: ~~8~~ 4 points, 8th: ~~6~~ 3 points, 9th: ~~4~~ 2 points, 10th: ~~2~~ 1 points.

Rationale: This divides the number of points by half, providing (1) simpler addition, (2) possible increased motivation due to smaller point spread, and (3) identical scoring to 103.19.3 (scoring for USMS pool championships) and 307.9.1C (scoring for "other" open water & long distance championships).

LD 39 307.12.3 page 85 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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~~307.12.3 If a swimmer participates in two age groups in the course of a year, the points earned shall be counted in the older age group. If a swimmer swims the same event in two different age groups, only the higher finish will be counted.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping: HOD approval of 301.4 (age group determination) in 2016 makes this obsolete. Renumber after.

LD 40 308.1.1 page 85 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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308.1.1 Individual and relay ~~national~~ USMS records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway swims (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (1-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal).

Rationale: Housekeeping: Replaces the term “national” with the correct term “USMS”.

LD 41 308.1.2 & 3 page 85 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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308.1.2 To be considered for a ~~national~~ USMS record, individual participants and relays must enter and complete the swim in a sanctioned event; ~~with results routed through the event host to the Long Distance Committee chair.~~ conducted in compliance with USMS rules.

~~**308.1.3** Open water and long distance records shall only be permitted from events conducted in compliance with USMS rules.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping: Combines previous 308.1.2 and 308.1.3, replaces the term “national” with the correct term “USMS”, and removes unnecessary language concerning process. Renumber after.

LD 42 308.1.6 page 85 Long Distance Committee

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
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308.1.6 USMS records for postal swims may be established by using a swimmer’s split time in an individual event if:

- A** The split is swum as an initial distance within an event,
- B** The swimmer completes the full distance of the event,
- C** The intent to record a split time is brought to the attention, in writing, of the event director at the time of entry in the longer event, and
- D** ~~At least two dedicated handheld~~ A stopwatches or electronic timing system ~~are~~ is used to record the record split in accordance with article 306.5.

Rationale: This proposal matches the timing standards in this article with the timing standards for postal swims in article 306.5, and adds reference to that article. It also changes the word

“watch” with the more accurate term “stopwatch” used consistently throughout the rule book.

LD 43	Various	pages 67-85 Long Distance Committee			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
Replace “race” for “swim” in 302.2.3, 303.3.3, 303.9.4, 303.10.1, 303.11, 303.11.1 (3x), 303.11.2 (2x), and 307.7.8. Replace “pre-race meeting” with “pre-swim meeting” in 302.2.3 and 307.7.3.					
<i>Rationale: Housekeeping: using consistent language. Due to our long history of making rules by committee, the words “race” is used interchangeably with “swim” throughout the part 3 rules. The Long Distance Committee prefers “swim” (acknowledging that non-competitive swims are not properly “races” by definition), and has chosen “swim” many times throughout this section of the rule book.</i>					

LD 44	Various	pages 67-85 Long Distance Committee			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Withdrawn
Replace “virtual” for “postal” in 301.2.2 (3x), 301.4, 305.3, 305.3.1, 305.3.4 (3x), 306 Title, 306.2.2, 306.4, 306.8.1, 306.8.2, 306.9, 307.2.2G, 307.2.2H, 307.2.2I, 307.2.3, 307.6, 307.7.4, 307.7.9, 307.9, 307.9.1A, 307.9.1B, 307.12, 307.12.2, 308.1.1, and 308.1.6					
<i>Rationale: Housekeeping: updating outdated rules language. The term “postal” is now inaccurate (USMS not accept entries posted by snail-mail for current postal championships, and most other postal hosts don’t either), and is thus confusing to members. The LDC recommends replacing “postal” with “virtual”, a term already used by USA-Swimming to describe similar events swum locally but compiled nationally.</i>					

LEGISLATION PROPOSALS

2017 Convention – Dallas, Texas

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-1 **202.1.1, 204.1** **pages 59, 65** **Board of Directors** **Modify**

202.1.1 Sanction Requirements—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form.

(1) The entry forms, except for those for postal events, shall contain the language of the liability release as stated in USMS policy (see USMS Guide to Operations, Sanctions section). All swimmers, before participating, shall have signed the liability release.

...

204.1 Release

All individual membership application forms and sanctioned entry forms, excluding postal events, shall include a liability release. The liability release shall be signed by the person registering or entering. The liability release shall conform to the language and format specified by USMS policy (see USMS Guide to Operations, Sanctions section).

Rationale: The Long Distance Committee and the Executive Committee agree that adjustments to the sanctioning rules should be made to remove the waiver requirement and simplify the registration for postals and allow clubs to register swimmers and/or upload results in bulk. Postal event entries often happen AFTER the USMS member completes the swim, so the liability releases are not signed prior to participating. As USMS members, sanctioned postal event participants have already signed the same liability release when they registered for USMS membership.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-2 **601.2.3, 601.2.4** **pages 107–108** **Rules Committee** **Modify**

601.2.3 Submission Deadline—The deadline for changes submitted by an LMSC to the chair of the LMSC Development Committee is February 1 to be considered as described in 601.4.4. Proposed changes to the *USMS Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition* by an LMSC must be submitted to the chair of the Legislation, Long Distance, or Rules Committee not later than July~~June~~ 10 to be considered as described in articles 601.4.1, 601.4.2, and 601.4.3.

601.2.4 Submissions After the Deadline—The Board of Directors, Executive Committee, or standing committees of the House of Delegates may propose changes to the USMS code after July~~June~~ 10. Submissions after the deadline may be adopted in accordance with articles 601.4.1, 601.4.2, or 601.4.3 by a two-thirds vote of the committee of jurisdiction, provided the proposed amendment is made available to all members of the House of Delegates in advance of the annual meeting. All other submissions after the deadline shall be considered as emergency amendments and adopted in accordance with article 601.4.6.

Rationale: The USMS convention is evolving to include more content outside of committee business with less meeting time. This necessitates committee consideration and action prior to convention. An earlier deadline would facilitate committee work prior to publishing proposed amendments to the House of Delegates by August 15.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-3 **202.1.1A** **page 60** **Rules Committee** **Modify**

202.1.1 Sanction Requirements—Sanctions shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form.

...

Insert new (4) and renumber

(4) The meet information shall state the primary timing system that will be used during the meet and which requirements listed in articles 103.18.5–103.18.7 are expected to be satisfied for purposes of records and Top 10.

Rationale: Require the meet director to inform swimmers of the expectation to achieve records and Top 10 times based on the primary timing system in use.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-4 **201.2.4** **page 58** **Virginia LMSC** **Modify**

201.2.4 Changing LMSC Affiliation—A club wishing to change its LMSC affiliation must approve such change by a majority vote of its general membership at a regular club meeting or at a special meeting called for that purpose, with the vote duly certified by the club’s president and secretary. The transfer also must be approved by a majority vote of the officers of the club’s current and proposed LMSCs. If approved, the transfer shall be effective 60 days after receipt of written notice by the National Office. This requirement applies regardless of the timing of the affiliation change, including when an existing club’s annual membership is renewed.

Rationale: The provisions of article 201.2.4 are in place so that each LMSC has a voice in decisions to change club affiliation. Clubs changing affiliation due to geographic proximity to another LMSC can have a significant long-term impact on the stability and financial health of an LMSC and, at a minimum, both LMSCs need to be part of the discussion. The current article has been interpreted in a way that permits clubs to change affiliation at the time of annual membership renewal, which circumvents the intent.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-5 **507.1.11** **page 104** **Records and Tabulation Committee** **Modify**

507.1.11 Records and Tabulation—The Records and Tabulation Committee shall establish and maintain a standardized ~~process~~ national procedures to verify and record results of pool meets. This shall include maintaining the list of certified pool measurements and coordination of sanction, pool measurement, and event results databases. The committee shall maintain USMS records, All-American and All-Stars rosters, and USMS Top 10 times for each course, and shall publish all of the above at least annually. of recording and verifying times and shall publish the Top 10 times, All-American and All-Star rosters, and USMS records annually for each course. The committee shall consist of the committee chair and sufficient members to execute the committee function. The national swims coordinator will be an ex officio member of the committee.

Rationale: This change updates the committee definition to reflect current responsibilities. The committee has morphed over the years, acquiring additional responsibilities and distributing more Top 10 work to the LMSC Top 10 recorders through the use of quality tools developed to support the End to End Event Management initiative.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-6 **508.2** **page 105** **Board of Directors** **Delete**

~~508.2—Fees~~

~~Fees shall be established by the House of Delegates.~~

Rationale: The House of Delegates already has the nondelegable power to review and approve the annual budget pursuant to rule 504.2.2C, including revenue and expenditures. Also, article 201.1.5 already addresses the annual membership fee. Article 508.2 has created confusion in recent years about which fees it applies to and whether they need to be brought before the House of Delegates separately from the budget.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-7 **508.3** **page 106** **Board of Directors** **Modify**

508.3 Budget Requests

~~Requests for budget items or funding that are disapproved by the Board of Directors (or those not submitted to the Board of Directors) may be approved by the House of Delegates by a two-thirds vote. Changes to a budget submitted by the Board of Directors shall require a two-thirds approval by the House of Delegates.~~

Rationale: The proposed change to article 508.3 will make USMS budget approval consistent with the process followed for Rules and Legislation proposals: a recommendation by the responsible committees requires a super majority to change. The budget is constructed and reviewed by the individuals (CEO, CFO, and treasurer) and committees (Finance Committee and BOD) most knowledgeable on the organization's finances and spending needs. A super majority requirement to change the proposed budget should help streamline the budget discussion by ensuring only the most important changes are discussed on the HOD floor. The HOD retains its nondelegable power to review and approve the annual budget.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-8 **202, 203** **pages 60–64** **Board of Directors** **Modify**

202.1 Sanctions

...

A Applications for sanction shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held. Sanction applications shall be accompanied by the entry form.

...

(4) The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates in the annual budget.~~ Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

...

202.2 Recognized Events

...

202.2.1 Recognition—Recognition shall be issued, withheld, or withdrawn in accordance with the following:

A Application for recognition of events within the jurisdiction of USMS shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held, and applications shall be accompanied by the recognition fee. The recognition fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates in the annual budget.~~ Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

...

203.3.2 Requirements—The following requirements shall be followed by the sanctioning LMSC and sanction applicant:

...

- J The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates~~ in the annual budget. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

Rationale: Since the national sanction and recognition fees were approved several years ago there has been uncertainty on the process by which they are set. The proposed changes establish the process.

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
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L-9 **503.3.4** **page 95** **Board of Directors** **Insert**

503.3.4 Each zone chair is eligible for election to the same office for two consecutive terms. No person so elected for two successive terms is eligible for reelection to the same position until after the lapse of two years following the term of office to which that person was last elected.

Rationale: USMS uses term limits for officers and at-large directors to encourage succession. The same practice should apply to zone chairs. This language mirrors that in article 505.2.4 (Officers) and 506.2.4 (At-Large Directors).

Report of the Finance Committee Budget and Fees Subcommittee

Unanimously Approved by FC May 9, 2017

The Subcommittee members are Peter Guadagni, Chair, Ralph Davis, Phil Dodson, Jeanne Ensign, Harry Greenfield, Susan Kuhlman, and Susie Young. We met by conference call four times between December and March. Our findings and recommendations are below.

The Subcommittee members discussed concerns about the USMS budget and fee setting process. The issues included:

1. The USMS budget is primarily the National Office budget and created by the professional staff. The current HOD approval process was created when USMS was a volunteer run organization.
2. There is a lack of clarity about which fees the HOD should establish and the process for doing so.
3. Fees are the budget element delegates are most interested in, yet there is limited opportunity for delegates to comment early in the convention.
4. A change in fees on the HOD floor can have significant budget effects with no opportunity to rebalance the budget prior to the end of convention.
5. In practice, the process for changing budget items including fees on the HOD floor has been unwieldy with suboptimal results. The thought, logic and underlying support of the original proposal is often lost. Roberts Rules is not a good process for amending a budget.

The Rules and Legislation Committees' process for enacting changes includes early communication of proposals, enablement of delegate comment and a super majority requirement to overturn Committee recommendations. The Subcommittee believes this would be a good model for the budget approval process.

The Subcommittee unanimously recommends:

1. Membership registration fees should continue to be approved by the House of Delegates;
2. Any changes to a proposed budget passed out of Finance Committee and approved by the Board will require a super majority vote by the HOD;
3. The proposed budget will be available to delegates prior to convention (this has been the practice in recent years but it is not formalized). A fee change and budget summary will be included with the proposed budget; and
4. There will be an open forum early in the convention where delegates may ask questions, voice concerns or offer suggestions regarding the budget and fees. This is in addition to the two Finance Committee budget review meetings open to all delegates.

Recommendations 3 and 4 will be incorporated into FOG. FOG changes do not require submission to the Legislation Committee but do require approval by the Board of Directors.

Specifically, the Subcommittee recommends the Finance Committee approve sending a request to the Board of Directors for the following legislative and rules changes:

FC1

508.2 Fees

Membership registration fees ~~Fees~~ shall be established by the House of Delegates.

FC2

508.3 Budget Requests

~~Requests for budget items or funding that are disapproved by the Board of Directors (or those not submitted to the Board of Directors) may be approved by the House of Delegates by a two-thirds vote.~~ Changes to a budget approved by the Board of Directors shall require a two-thirds affirmative vote by the House of Delegates.

FC3

Pool Meet Sanction Requirements

202.1.1.A(4) The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates~~ in the annual budget. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

FC4

Pool Meet Recognition Requirements

202.2.1.A Application for recognition of events within the jurisdiction of USMS shall be made to the LMSC within which the event is to be held, and applications shall be accompanied by the recognition fee. The recognition fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates~~ in the annual budget. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

FC5

202.3.2.J The sanction fee shall consist of a national fee established ~~by the House of Delegates~~ in the annual budget. Each LMSC may also establish a local fee.

LMSC DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS – APPENDIX D

2017 Convention – Dallas, TX

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-1 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries	pgs.144-146	BD/NT/ST LMSCs	Amend
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Border—That part of the state of Texas west of but not including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton, Schleicher, Concho, Runnels, Taylor, Jones, Haskell, Knox, Foard, and Hardeman ~~Tom Green and Coke~~, and south of but not including the counties of ~~Mitchell, Howard, Martin and Andrews~~.

North Texas—The northern part of the state of Texas bounded on the west by and including the counties of Hardeman, Foard, Knox, Haskell, Jones and Taylor; on the south by but not including the counties of ~~Winkler, Ector, Midland, Glasscock, Sterling, Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Mills, Lampasas, Bell, Milam, Robertson, Leon, Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches and Shelby; on the west by the state of New Mexico; on the east by the state of Louisiana and the state of Arkansas; and on the north by the state of Oklahoma and~~ excluding the county of Bowie County, Texas.

South Texas – ~~The state of Texas bounded on the east by and including the counties of Milam, Burleson, Washington, Austin, Fayette, Lavaca and Jackson; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico and the Republic of Mexico; on the west by and including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton, Schleicher, Tom Green and Coke; and on the north by and including the counties of Coke, Runnels, Coleman, Brown, Mills, Lampasas, Bell and Milam~~ The southern part of the state of Texas bounded on the east by and not including the counties of Matagorda, Wharton, Colorado, Fort Bend, Waller, Grimes, Brazos and Robertson; on the north by and including the counties of Milam, Bell, Lampasas, Mills, Brown, Coleman and Runnels; and on the west by and including the counties of Concho, Schleicher, Sutton and Val Verde

Rationale: This proposal moves the western part of the North Texas LMSC and three counties from the South Texas LMSC into the Border LMSC, effectively making all of West Texas, from El Paso through the Panhandle, one LMSC. Large cities moved include San Angelo, Lubbock and Amarillo. This proposal arises out of efforts by the South Central Zone to help better group population areas in West Texas and has been discussed and approved by the Border, North Texas and South Texas LMSCs. In addition, South Texas is reworded to define the border in a single geographic line of counties.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-2 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries	page 144	Border LMSC	Amend
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~~Border~~West Texas—That part of the state of Texas west of but not including the counties of Val Verde, Sutton, Schleicher, Tom Green and Coke, and south of but not including the counties of Mitchell, Howard, Martin and Andrews.

Rationale: The West Texas name more accurately describes and locates the LMSC within the U.S. and within United States Masters Swimming.

If the above were approved, additional changes to Rule Book Appendix D would be:

Page 141 – **Zones:**

South Central—Arkansas, ~~Border~~, Gulf, Oklahoma, North Texas, South Texas,
West Texas

Page 142 – **LMSC Numeric Codes and Abbreviations:** 53 ~~BD—Border~~ WT West Texas

Page 143 – **Zone and LMSC Boundary Map**
(Change BD to WT in the appropriate LMSC)

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-4 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Arkansas—The state of Arkansas. In the state of Texas, ~~the county of Bowie~~ County.

Rationale: Standardize the description when only one county is referenced.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-5 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Allegheny Mountain—The commonwealth of Pennsylvania west of but not including Potter, Clinton, ~~Center~~Centre, Huntingdon and Bedford Counties. In the state of West Virginia the counties of Marshall, Brooke, Ohio and Hancock. In the state of Ohio the counties of Columbiana, Belmont and Jefferson.

Rationale: Standardize the description to ensure understanding of when counties are included and excluded in the boundary description. Correct the spelling of “Centre.”

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-6 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Delaware Valley—The state of New Jersey south of Mercer, Monmouth and Ocean Counties. The state of Delaware. In the state of Maryland ~~the county of Cecil~~ County. The commonwealth of Pennsylvania east of and including Potter, Clinton, ~~Center~~Centre, Huntingdon and Bedford Counties.

Rationale: Add Monmouth County to complete the boundary line descriptions as Mercer and Ocean counties do not meet. Correct the spelling of “Centre.”

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-7 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Florida—The state of Florida except the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and that part of Hendry County east of Route 833; and also excluding the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington, Bay and that part of Calhoun and Jackson Counties west of the Apalachicola River.

Florida Gold Coast—In the state of Florida the counties of Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe and that part of Hendry County east of Route 833.

Rationale: Dade County became Miami-Dade County in 1997.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-8 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Gulf—That part of the state of Texas bounded on the north by and including the counties of ~~Robertson, Leon, Houston, Angelina, Nacogdoches and Shelby~~ Shelby, Nacogdoches, Angelina, Houston, Leon and Robertson; ~~on the east by the state of Louisiana; on the south by the Gulf of Mexico;~~ and on the west by and including the counties of ~~Fort Bend, Wharton, Colorado, Waller, Grimes, Robertson, Brazos and Matagorda~~ Brazos, Grimes, Waller, Fort Bend, Wharton, Colorado and Matagorda.

Rationale: Reorder counties to draw a continuous line east to west to south from the Louisiana border to the Gulf coast.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-9 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Illinois—The state of Illinois except the counties of ~~St. Clair, Calhoun, Greene, Jackson, Jersey, Monroe and Madison~~ Greene, Calhoun, Jersey, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe and Jackson.

Rationale: Reorder counties north to south.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-10 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 144 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Inland Northwest – ~~In the state of Washington the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Douglas, Ferry, Stevens, Spokane, Lincoln, Grant, Kittitas, Asotin, Columbia, Yakima, Franklin, Adams,~~

~~Whitman, Walla Walla, Garfield, Benton, Pend Oreille and that portion of Klickitat County east of Highway 97 and including the city of Goldendale. In the state of Idaho the counties of Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce, Idaho, Clearwater and Boundary.~~ The eastern portion of the state of Washington east of and including the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas, Yakima and the portion of Klickitat County east of Highway 97 and including the city of Goldendale. The northern portion of the state of Idaho north of and including Idaho County.

Rationale: Simplify the description using counties as boundary descriptors rather than naming every county in the LMSC.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-11 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 145 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

~~Lake Erie—In the state of Ohio the counties of Tuscarawas, Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit and Wayne~~ Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Wayne, Summit, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Tuscarawas, Ashtabula, Trumbull and Mahoning.

Rationale: Reorder counties west to east and north to south.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-12 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 145 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Maryland—The state of Maryland except the counties of Cecil, Montgomery and Prince George's.

Potomac Valley—The District of Columbia. In the state of Maryland the counties of Montgomery and Prince George's. In the commonwealth of Virginia the counties of Arlington and Fairfax and the cities of Alexandria, Fairfax and Falls Church.

Rationale: Correct spelling of Prince George's.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-13 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 145 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Missouri Valley—The state of Kansas. The state of Missouri west of and including and bounded by the counties of Schuyler, Adair, Macon, Randolph, Audrain, Callaway, Cole, Moniteau, Morgan, Benton, Hickory, Polk, Greene, Christian and Taney.

Rationale: Standardize the description to ensure understanding of when counties are included and excluded in the boundary description.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-14 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 145 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Ohio—The state of Ohio except the counties of ~~Seneca, Crawford, Columbiana, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Summit, Wayne, Belmont, Jefferson and Tuscarawas~~ Seneca, Crawford, Erie, Huron, Richland, Lorain, Ashland, Cuyahoga, Medina, Wayne, Summit, Lake, Geauga, Portage, Stark, Tuscarawas, Ashtabula, Trumbull, Mahoning, Columbiana, Jefferson and Belmont.

Rationale: Reorder counties geographically and create a complementary description with Lake Erie LMSC.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-15 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Ozark—The state of Missouri east of and including the counties of Scotland, Knox, Shelby, Monroe, Pike, Montgomery, Osage, Miller, Camden, Dallas, Webster, Douglas and Ozark. In the state of Illinois the counties of Calhoun, Greene, ~~Jackson, Jersey~~, Madison, St. Clair ~~and Monroe and Jackson.~~

Rationale: Reorder counties geographically.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-16 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Pacific—The state of California north of but not including the counties of San Luis Obispo, Kern and San Bernardino. In the state of Nevada the counties of ~~Humboldt, Washoe, Lyon, Storey, Mineral, Douglas, Churchill, Pershing, Lander and Carson City~~ Washoe, Humboldt, Pershing, Lander, Churchill, Storey, Carson City, Douglas, Lyon and Mineral.

Rationale: Reorder counties geographically.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-17 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Pacific Northwest – The state of Washington west of but not including the counties of Okanogan, Chelan, Kittitas and Yakima;z and north of but not including the counties of Cowlitz, and ~~Skamania and Klickitat~~.

Rationale: Klickitat County is not one of the counties that forms the border of the LMSC.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-18 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Southeastern—The states of Alabama,~~The state of~~ and Tennessee. In the state of Florida the counties of Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington and Bay, and that part of Jackson and Calhoun Counties west of the Apalachicola River.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-19 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Southern Pacific—In the state of California the counties of ~~San Luis Obispo, Kern, Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange, Riverside and Santa Barbara~~ San Luis Obispo, Kern, San Bernardino, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside. In the state of Nevada the counties of Clark, ~~Esmeralda, Lincoln, and Nye~~ and Esmeralda.

Rationale: Reorder counties to east and north to south.

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D-20 Appx D: LMSC Boundaries page 146 LMSC Development Cmte Amend

Snake River – ~~The state of Idaho except the counties of Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Latah, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Lewis and Idaho.~~ The state of Idaho south of and excluding Idaho County. In the state of Nevada the counties of Elko, Eureka and White Pine ~~and Eureka~~. In the state of Oregon, ~~the county of~~ Malheur County.

Rationale: Make the description complementary to the Inland Northwest LMSC for Idaho and reorder Nevada counties in geographic order.

TO: House of Delegates
FROM: Dawson Hughes, Susan Kuhlman
DATE: September 05, 2017
SUBJECT: Business plan in support of the 2018 draft budget

Enclosed is the 2018 proposed USMS budget designed to support initiatives developed based on the [USMS Strategic Plan](#). This document provides priorities and goals for 2018. Among these goals are: USMS 3.0 (IT modernization initiative reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and Board in 2017), greater direct support for local program development, a new event series focused on attracting fitness oriented members and supporting the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation, and continued development of added fitness programming. The draft budget bottom line reflects a net operating deficit of **\$8,561**.

2018 BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

*For detail, Program Revenues, page 3
see the full 2018 Business Plan, pages 3 - 9*

Compensation: 2.1% decrease from 2017 budget. One full time IT leadership position now filled by a contractor. (Off setting expenses are in Membership budget.) One new full time marketing coordinator position is budgeted to be added 4/1.

Insurance costs: 4% increase.

Membership revenue: 2.0% membership increase over the 2017 membership forecast for a total of 67,650 members. Membership fee increase of \$2 to \$43 for 2018 (4th of 5 years of \$2 increase per year approved in 2014).

IT: Phase I and II of IT Modernization Project to be implemented. Modern website via new software platform that provides an improved mobile experience, allows us to capture data on visitors to the website to use in re-marketing USMS membership, provides a personalized experience while navigating usms.org, among many more upgrades. We will also be moving all USMS software to the cloud.

Magazine costs: Assume 35% choose digital version of *SWIMMER*. Replace the paper copy with a digital version to non-renewed members in January/February. Savings of \$103K from 2017 budget.

Education Services: Renamed Program Services. For 2018 change to 11 instructional weekends that will include almost all courses in one location.

Program revenues: 1085 clubs, 450 workout groups at \$43 each, 1,400 designated coaches and instructors, 500 coach certification participants, 210 ALTS instructor participants, and 490 stroke development clinic

participants. New fitness and local swim programs. Decrease of \$99K from 2017 budget.

Program costs:	Reduced travel costs by consolidating offerings in hub locations. Decrease of \$82K from 2017 budget. \$10K placeholder for 2018 National Coaches Conference held every other year.
Adv/sponsorship:	20 sponsors, 14 magazine advertisers, \$25K in new revenues for a total of \$483K. \$50K in value-in-kind products.
Marketing costs:	Increase internet advertising to utilize new Potential Member database - \$50K. One time cost to support sponsors during UANA Pan American Championships (Pan Ams) - \$18K. New sponsorship sales agency - \$10K.
College Club:	Full year revenue/cost center for 2018. Pro-rated club memberships began 8/15/17. Expenses include a leadership summit - \$15K, national event development and marketing -\$21K and USAS convention-\$4K.
Admin-Volunteers:	Expenses are \$33K less than 2017 budget. This is off year for the LMSC Leadership Summit.
Admin-Staff:	\$34K Increase related to the software amortization of Phase I and II of the IT Modernization Project capital investment.

SUMMARY OF 2018 DRAFT BUDGET PROGRAM REVENUES		2018	2017	Change
MEMBERSHIP FEES*				
Membership Fees	full year	\$43	\$41	\$2
	partial year	\$20-\$35	\$20-\$35	\$0
Club Fees		\$43	\$41	\$2
Workout Group Fees		\$43	\$41	\$2
One Event Fees		\$15	\$15	\$0
*\$2 per year increase for 5 years approved during 2013 Convention. 2018 is year 4 of 5-year schedule.				
PROGRAM SERVICES REGISTRATIONS				
Coach Certifications	level 1&2	\$190	\$185	\$5
	level 3	\$205	\$225	(\$20)
Stroke Development Clinics	members	\$50	\$50	\$0
	non-members	\$75	\$75	\$0
	coaches	\$45	\$50	(\$5)
Fees - Designated Coach & Instructor		\$30	\$30	\$0
Adult Learn to Swim Instruction		\$250	\$300	(\$50)
EVENT/SANCTION CHARGES				
	Sanctioned/Recognized			
Pool meet	sanctioned	\$50	\$50	\$0
Pool meet	national championship	\$5 per person	\$5 per person	\$0
Pool meet	national championship	\$12 event surcharge	\$12 event surcharge	\$0
Pool meet	recognized	\$100	\$100	\$0
Open water swim (max charge of \$1,000)	sanctioned	\$100 plus \$5 per participant	100 plus \$5 per participant	\$0
Open water swim	sanctioned national championship	\$5 per, +\$3 surcharge	\$5 per, +\$3 surcharge	\$0

ASSUMPTION DETAILS AND BUSINESS PLAN SUPPORT FOR 2018

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

- The budget assumes a 2.0% increase in overall 2018 membership, based on the 2017 forecast. USMS will end 2017 with approximately 66,000 members. The membership registration fee, as approved by the [House of Delegates](#), will increase by \$2 to \$43. This is the fourth year of the five-year plan incorporating a \$2 annual fee increase. The total membership budget for 2018 is 67,320.
- Registrations that occur after June 30 will be given a choice to either pay the full fee for the current year or take advantage of the reduced fee for the current year and add on the following year. This will provide an improved value proposition for registering for the following full calendar year.
- In 2018 the year plus member option will begin in July. New members will have the choice to pay the full year rate of \$43 or opt for the year plus. The year plus consists

of a six to three-month membership (July - December) for the year 2017, plus prepayment of a full-year (12-month) membership for 2018. The 2017 portion of the registration fees will include progressive discounts based on the month of the registration: July = \$35; August = \$30; September = \$25 and October = \$20.

- Of the \$183,110 increase in membership revenue, 28% is from member growth and 72% is from fee increases.
- Significant Membership Services, IT, and Administrative staff time are allocated to programming, accounting, service, communication, maintenance, and safeguarding of the in-house registration system and the membership database.
- Office IT services and commonly required system maintenance is outsourced - \$24K.

Member Services Support Staff provides member benefits, customer service, communication, and engagement for our members and extensive volunteer network, including supporting the efforts of USMS's nearly 1,500 Masters Swimming clubs and workout groups and 52 LMSCs. The staff is responsible for day-to-day operations that cover customer service, registration, volunteer and member communication, the planning and coordination of the USMS annual meeting at the USAS convention, publishing and printing of the Rule Book and issuance of certificates of insurance, on an on-going basis.

- **Membership Services** primary responsibility is servicing and supporting our 65,000+ members including athletes, volunteers, coaches, and event directors year-round. They develop and execute member campaigns targeted to increase both new and renewing membership goals through phone, email, text, survey and contest campaign efforts. They are also coordinating the updates for the Places to Swim and club listings databases. In 2017 the new College Club initiative was implemented. The support for these new members is also facilitated by this department.
- **Volunteer Services** provide training to enhance volunteer roles for LMSC leadership and foster strong communication and best practices so that USMS volunteers have the resources they need to support the membership. Training includes: creation of tutorials; phone and email support.

IT focus for 2018 (USMS 3.0)

- Website redesign and re-platform to a modern content management system that supports mobile friendly presentation. (Projects approved and began in 2017. Phase I implementation first quarter 2018 and Phase II implementation by end of 3rd quarter 2018.)
- Streamlining registration and renewal process to improve conversion rates. Reduce the number of registration screens and increase the autofill fields; improve the mobile registration process.
- Move website and membership management system to the cloud for improved security and redundancy - \$25K. Eliminates the need for capital investment in new servers.

- Development of an interface to the USMS membership system that enables external systems (e.g. event registration, club management, fitness tracking applications) to access USMS data and share data with USMS.
- Implementation of a new email management system that includes email subscription management functionality - \$16K.
- Improved communications with current and perspective new members after planned implementation of new software by the end of the first quarter.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- Our Communications and Publications business unit produces six issues of *SWIMMER* magazine, 30 issues of *STREAMLINES*, video content, regular features to usms.org, and social media programs. In addition, event communications surrounding our national events, including 10 pre-event email updates and the meet programs, are managed and produced in-house.
- Assume that 35% of membership will opt to receive the digital version of *SWIMMER*. This is compared to 25% in 2017. The related printing and postage savings is approximately \$41K.
Send non-renewed members the digital version of the Jan/Feb *SWIMMER* in place of a paper copy for an estimated savings of \$17K.

PROGRAM SERVICES (formerly Education Services)

- In 2018 the budgeted fees for club and workout groups are equal to the national member registration fee of \$43. This is a \$2 increase over 2017. Per the USMS rulebook, clubs are defined as members.
- Change in the structure of existing course offerings:
 - Strategically schedule 11 education weekends in larger hub cities throughout the U.S.
 - Combine coach certification levels 1-2, level 3, clinic course for coaches, ALTS classes and stroke clinics in each location.
 - Overall budgeted attendance for 2018 is 1200 participants for all classes. Increases the opportunity for course variety and networking in one location.
- New 2018 initiatives:
 - The fitness program is being developed in 2017 and will be rolled out in 2018. The development process will continue through the end of 2017.
 - Local Swim Programs will be staff/contractor coach managed swim programs in locations where there are swimmers and facilities, but lack a formal masters swimming program structure and leadership. USMS will assume the financial risks during the establishment of the new program(s). (See Goals and Objectives Document attached)
- The Adult Learn-to-Swim (ALTS) instructor certification program will move 5 classes under a separate Swimming Saves Lives initiative that will be available to communities that may not have a Masters' program, but have a demonstrated need in the community to teach adults to swim.
- Program Services will continue its outreach initiative by making club visits and presenting at five or more conventions with strategic partners.

- The National Coaches Conference is scheduled for 2018 and will be supported by a collaboration between the Coaches Committee, LMSC host and staff.
- Regional Program Developer – The National Office is planning to contract with at least 1 regional program developer in 2018. (See Goals and Objectives document attached)

EVENTS

- The biggest change in Events is that the 2018 Summer Nationals will not be contested in favor of supporting the 2018 UANA Pan American Masters Championship in Orlando. This has an impact on many various related revenue and expense items.
 - Loss of revenues for championship meet surcharges and \$5 per swimmer sanction fee for an estimated reduction of \$25K
 - Savings of approximately \$16K for direct event support. These savings are directly offset by the additional sponsor support costs under the Marketing Department that will be incurred for participation in the UANA Pan Ams. This is an acceptable sponsor alternative that satisfies our contractual obligations.
 - Officials Committee budget is unchanged with plans to support the UANA Pan Ams.
- In 2017 we hired a new full time Events and Programs Coordinator. In 2018 we established a new Event Development budget that will be used to support the activities of this new position. In 2017 the budget was included under Program Services; Club and Coach Development.
- There are no planned Event fee changes for 2018.

MARKETING SERVICES

- The 2018 budget reflects 20 sponsors, 14 magazine advertisers and royalties for a total revenue of \$483,200 this includes \$25,000 in new sponsor revenues. In addition, the sponsors will provide \$50,000 of value-in-kind (products) used to support ongoing programs.
- The 2018 budget includes \$10,000 for sponsorship sales agency support, who will assist USMS with attracting new sponsors outside of endemic swimming brands.
- The USMS digital footprint will continue to expand through use of Google and Facebook advertising. The goal is to successfully drive membership leads from the new customer experience software; through the process of registering for membership. In 2018, a lead generation database will be created consisting of those individuals that visit and read our content, but are not members. The benefits of joining USMS will be marketed to this group through email campaigns and digital ads. We will also use this money to advertise our events and clubs that require membership. The budget for the membership digital advertising campaign is \$50,000.
- Due to UANA Pan Am Masters being hosted in Orlando in 2018, \$18,000 has been added to the Marketing budget to fulfill contractual obligations for sponsors. This is

offset by savings of \$16,000 in the Events budget for the suspended 2018 Summer Nationals; in favor of supporting Pan Ams.

COLLEGE CLUB

- For several years, USMS has been a supporter of the college club championships and hosted college club swimming summits in early 2016 and 2017. The summits included 11 college club presidents and three different college club advisors. From these summits, the task force gained insight into what the college club swimmers and clubs are looking for to enhance their swimming experience. The current college club structure is disjointed and program offerings are inconsistent. In 2018, the goal for USMS is to unify these clubs to create a national community, to help the clubs grow and to become the organizational backbone so that more swimmers continue to swim through college. USMS can begin to engage with these swimmers at the college club level with the goal of transitioning them to Masters Swimming after graduation.
- The revenue budget for 2018 is \$36,900 and consists of fees for 80 clubs. The college club membership begins on August 15 to coincide with the beginning of their swim season. This revenue model is based on the number of members per club instead of the individual members. The program is being developed to fit within the recreational college sports structure.
- To activate this new program, expenses for 2018 include: college club leadership summit - \$15,000; national event development and marketing - \$21,300; and attendance of three delegates to the USAS Convention - \$3,600.
- Staff resources will need to be identified to support this program.
- Currently, it is estimated that there are 5,000 college club swimmers in 200+ clubs. The 2018 budget assumes 85 registered college clubs.

SWIMMING SAVES LIVES FOUNDATION

- During the 2018 budgeting process a distinct SSLF budget is being proposed (This budget would include three departments under the Foundation umbrella: Operations, ALTS Instructor Courses and Events).
- The impact on the USMS budget will be to remove the SSLF budget centers; including the Central Indiana Community Foundation annual transfer.
- Since inception, the long-term plan was to have the SSLF be self-supporting. Philosophically, the National Office Staff time spent on SSLF initiatives will be viewed as the organization's contribution to the Foundation, but the USMS operating budget would not be impacted by other direct expenses.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INSURANCE

- Risk management and insurance services will continue through partnership with Entertainment Sports and Insurance eXperts. ESIX charges USMS a flat, non-commissionable annual management fee to provide risk management and insurance brokerage services. Risk management programs include expanded

insurance coverage, an online sanction database, a national-level event compliance review and a waiver. Per ESIX, the insurance budget includes a 4% increase.

- The actual costs will be known prior to Convention.

ADMINISTRATION & VOLUNTEER

- The increase in Administrative expenses is mostly related to the amortization of Phase I and II of the IT software modernization capital investment - \$34K.
- This is an off year for the LMSC Leadership Summit and the next event is scheduled for 2019. This successful face-to-face leadership summit is planned every other year.

CAPITAL REQUESTS

- Per FOG, the threshold for capitalizing an equipment purchase is \$5K. The following capital is budgeted for 2018: other capital - \$10K.
- A long-term IT Modernization plan was included in the five-year plan approved by the BOD in February, 2017.
- In June, 2017 an IT Modernization Phase I overbudget request was approved by the Board and Finance Committee for \$245K. See BOD June 19, 2017 meeting minutes, item #4. <http://www.usms.org/admin/minutes/bod-2017-6-19-1.pdf>
- Phase II of the long-term IT Modernization plan is scheduled for implementation in late 2018. The estimated cost of Phase II is \$150K.
- The software amortization expenses related to both Phase I and Phase II are included in the 2018 operating budget.

COMPENSATION

- 2018 compensation is budgeted to decrease 2.1% compared to the 2017 budget.
- One new full time marketing coordinator position will be added 4/1.
- In 2017 we hired two summer interns. The program was very successful and two summer interns are included in the 2018 budget.
- Total 2018 draft compensation budget is \$1,754,800, which includes a 10% increase in health insurance and 3% salary increase.

Staff by Department	2018 Budget	2017 Budget	Variance
Administration	4.0	4.0	0.0
Communications/Publications	2.0	2.0	0.0
Membership/LMSC support	3.2	3.2	0.0
Marketing/Sponsor support	3.0	2.2	0.8
IT Support	2.0	3.0	-1.0
Program Services	4.0	4.0	0.0
Total FTEs	18.2	18.4	-0.2

Metrics from the Compensation and Benefits Committee

Changes in Payroll Budget from 2017 Budget to 2018 Proposed Budget:

In 2017 four budgeted positions were vacant for part of the year. A new full time Marketing Coordinator position will be filled after the first quarter. The 2018 budget assumes 18 filled positions, same as 2017, and that all other non-intern positions are filled for the full year.

I. Merit Increases:

Merit increases are awarded by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) based on individual employee performance. The merit pool in the 2018 proposed budget is 3% of base pay, the same as the 2017 merit pool. The merit pool reflects the Compensation and Benefits Committee recommendation based on market data reviewed the committee.

Bonus pool:

The proposed 2018 budget includes a bonus pool that is a percentage of eligible wages. The percentage remains unchanged. Bonus awards are determined at the discretion of the CEO and awarded based on accomplishment of organizational and employee goals. Part time and hourly employees are not eligible for bonuses. Administration of the Employee bonus plan is governed under the Staff Bonus plan document approved by the BOD.

II. Health Benefits Costs:

USMS received estimates for 2018 benefits changes from Trinet/SOI, our benefits provider. They have estimated rate changes will add 10% to health care and other benefits costs. As with the salaries mentioned above, we have budgeted benefits for all eligible positions for the full 2018 plan year.

III. Overall Compensation and Benefits Budget:

The total proposed budget, including cash compensation, benefits and taxes, is \$1,754,848, a 2.1% decrease from the 2017 approved budget. The Compensation and Benefits Committee and the Finance Committee have reviewed the assumptions used by staff to construct the budget and both committees agree the assumptions are appropriate and aligned with market trends.

U.S. Masters Swimming, Inc.							
2018 Draft Budget 9/05/2017 (Pre-Convention)							
				PRE-		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT				BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	Cost Center:	Members	Fee	2018	2017	2017	2016*
REVENUE							
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES:							
4010	Fees - Individuals @ \$43	PORTER	\$43	2,668,838	2,494,850	2,545,772	2,354,118
4012	Fees - year plus	PORTER		143,470	140,625	98,600	73,084
4013	Vanity ID	PORTER	\$50	6,000	13,400	10,000	12,191
4050	Fees- Affiliates	PORTER		100	100	100	100
4070	Rule Book Sales	PORTER		1,400	1,400	1,500	1,326
4074	Magazine Subscriptions	PORTER		2,800	2,800	2,800	2,930
4215	Promotional Sales	PORTER		400	500	4,200	4,384
	Membership Services Revenue			2,823,008	2,653,675	2,662,972	2,448,133
PROGRAM SERVICES							
4020	Fees - Clubs	BRENNER	1,085	\$43	46,655	44,485	39,729
4025	Fees - Workout Groups	BRENNER	450	\$43	19,350	18,450	17,425
4030	Coach Certifications	BRENNER	501		97,155	86,200	154,000
4032	Stroke Development Clinics	BRENNER			24,150	46,725	54,000
4033	Fitness Program	BRENNER			19,188	-	-
4034	Fees - USMS Local Swim Program/Club	BRENNER			29,250	-	-
4035	Fees - Designated Coach & Instructor	BRENNER		\$30	42,000	45,450	30,000
4036	Adult Learn to Swim Instruction	BRENNER			52,500	119,625	165,000
4036	Less SSLF grant program scholarships	BRENNER			(5,250)	(12,000)	(12,000)
4037	Fees - Club collections	KUHLMAN			13,000	13,000	13,250
4038	National Coaches Conference	JENKINS					24,215
	Program Services Revenue				337,998	361,935	461,404
EVENTS:							
4060	Fees - One-Event @ \$15.00	PORTER	1,910	\$15	28,650	28,650	28,650
4150	Championship Meet Surcharges	RODDIN			24,200	46,312	46,000
4151	LD Championship Surcharges	LIVONI			5,000	4,800	4,800
4152	GTD Revenue	DEERY			-	-	-
4155	Championship Patches	RODDIN			450	900	900
4157	LD Championship Medals	LIVONI			3,400	3,200	3,200
4210	Top Ten Subscriptions	PORTER			-	500	500
4250	All American Patches/Cert.	PORTER			2,200	900	900
4251	LD All American	PORTER			-	325	325
4252	Relay All American Awards	PORTER			-	900	900
4275	OW Education Conference	BRUCE			-	-	-
4300	OW Sanction flat fee @ \$100 each	KEIBER	58	\$100	5,800	5,700	6,000
4310	OW Event participant fees net of cap	KEIBER	6,081	\$5	30,405	30,405	33,785
4320	Pool Sanction flat fee @ \$50 each	KEIBER	300	\$50	15,000	15,000	19,850
4325	Pool Participant Fee Nat'l Championships	RODDIN	1,600	\$5	8,000	15,000	15,000
4330	Sanction Fee Rebates				(1,000)	(1,000)	(1,000)
4350	Recognized Event Fee	KEIBER	75	\$100	7,500	7,500	8,000
4450	Merchant Account Fee Income	KUHLMAN			6,975	12,148	13,075
	Events Revenue				136,580	171,240	180,885
ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP							
4075	SWIMMER Magazine Advertising	DEERY			45,000	46,750	39,750
4161	Sponsor Royalty Income	DEERY			9,200	9,300	4,300
4171	Sponsorship	DEERY			429,000	394,500	414,000
	In-Kind product contributions						
	Advertising and Sponsorship Revenue				483,200	450,550	458,050
COLLEGE CLUB REVENUE							
4430	College Club Membership	DEERY			35,935	14,585	14,583
	College Club Revenue				35,935	14,585	14,583

U.S. Masters Swimming, Inc.							
2018 Draft Budget 9/05/2017 (Pre-Convention)							
				PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT				BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	Cost Center:	Members	Fee	2018	2017	2017	2016*
CONTRIBUTION REVENUE							
4705	Contributions	N/A		-	-	-	69
4950	In-Kind (legal)	KUHLMAN					
4800	Contributions- Releases from Restrictions	KUHLMAN		-	10,282	11,000	-
	Contribution Revenue			-	10,282	11,000	69
ADMINISTRATION:							
4500	Other Income			-	-	-	15,100
4500	Opportunity Reserve Transfer			-	-	72,810	-
4500	Investment Spending Transfer	DAVIS		96,200	90,600	90,600	-
	Administration Revenue			96,200	90,600	163,410	15,100
	Total Revenue			3,912,921	3,752,867	3,952,304	3,439,158
EXPENSE							
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES							
5010	Liability Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		331,910	319,940	321,890	345,659
5012	Accident Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		22,680	21,860	21,640	21,289
5102	Membership Administration	PORTER		18,825	18,460	21,660	10,849
5103	Registration Expenses	PORTER		104,050	101,200	91,043	98,231
5320	Fitness Committee	JUREY		200	200	200	79
5420	Registration Committee	LETENDRE		-	-	-	-
5430	Rule Book Coordinator	PORTER		-	-	-	-
5470	Zone Activity costs	STEVENSON		3,000	3,000	3,000	2,500
5540	History & Archives Committee	DUNBAR		1,450	303	1,450	80
5550	Recognition & Awards Committee	NOVITSKE		960	960	960	325
5560	LMSC Development	MICHAEL MOORE		1,610	1,610	1,610	-
5685	Web Operations	KUHLMAN/WILLIAMSON		41,550	14,827	28,650	23,855
5690	IT Outside Services & Programs	KUHLMAN/WILLIAMSON		228,703	177,950	47,500	-
5701	USMS SWIMMER Magazine Production Co	HAMEL		246,237	287,674	349,235	324,137
5703	STREAMLINES/Web Content	HAMEL		13,000	12,242	13,000	13,093
5704	Multi-media Production	HAMEL		10,000	7,000	10,000	12,907
5840	ISHOF Contributions	KUHLMAN		21,500	21,500	21,500	21,500
5860	Rule Book Costs	PORTER		10,914	11,280	9,200	8,773
5900	Membership Services Payroll	HUGHES/KUHLMAN		1,272,304	1,166,578	1,329,230	1,186,252
	Membership Expense			2,328,893	2,166,584	2,271,768	2,069,530
PROGRAM SERVICES							
5280	Coaches Committee	JENNINGS		12,150	25,592	22,300	10,550
5290	Coaches Certification	BRENNER		98,338	126,821	160,570	143,738
5500	Fitness Program	BRENNER		17,750	15,460	43,770	-
5600	Adult Learn to Swim	BRENNER		46,482	93,746	117,955	102,519
5610	Education Conference			10,000	-	-	29,167
5770	Coach/Club Development Admin	BRENNER		111,575	84,384	88,595	68,775
5780	Local Swim Programs	BRENNER		26,666	-	-	-
	Program Services Expense			322,960	346,003	433,190	354,750
EVENTS:							
5205	Spring Nationals	HUGHES/KUHLMAN		14,670	7,918	12,380	8,557
5200	Summer Nationals	HUGHES/KUHLMAN		-	16,550	12,380	10,122
5250	Event Development	BRENNER/KEIBER		5,500	-	-	-
5121	All American Patches/Cert.	PORTER		1,450	1,000	1,000	1,513
5270	Championship Committee	RODDIN		8,918	7,668	8,918	5,717
5285	LC/SC Merchant Account Fees	KUHLMAN		5,700	9,000	9,269	6,543
5370	LD Committee	LIVONI		11,926	11,077	11,077	4,046
5380	Open Water Committee	BRUCE		8,380	380	10,380	380
5390	Officials Committee	ALBRIGHT		11,400	11,400	11,400	9,352

U.S. Masters Swimming, Inc.								
2018 Draft Budget 9/05/2017 (Pre-Convention)								
					PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT					BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
		Cost Center:	Members	Fee	2018	2017	2017	2016*
5410	Records & Tabulation Committee	SEIDLER			50	50	1,225	78
5440	Rules Committee	COCKRELL			1,000	1,110	1,450	317
5460	Sports Medicine and Science Committee	CARLSON			5,900	4,900	5,900	1,641
5240	Coordinator Contractors	HUGHES			16,000	15,800	15,800	16,083
	Events Expense				90,894	86,853	101,180	64,349
MARKETING/SPONSORSHIP								
5710	Sponsor costs	DEERY			67,550	31,550	43,800	31,275
5720	USA Swimming Collaboration	DEERY			2,600	1,350	2,400	12,348
5730	Marketing Services	DEERY			109,400	105,200	104,200	109,173
5890	In-Kind Products						-	
	Advertising and Sponsorship Expense				179,550	138,100	150,400	152,797
COLLEGE CLUB SERVICES								
5570	Summit	DEERY			15,000	13,998	15,000	-
5580	Events & Marketing	DEERY			20,570	24,775	10,400	-
5590	Convention	DEERY			3,640	3,640	3,640	-
	College Club Expense				39,210	42,413	29,040	-
ADMINISTRATION:								
5013	Directors & Officers Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX			7,460	7,135	7,216	6,047
5014	Bonding	KUHLMAN/ESIX			10,400	10,025	9,923	7,330
5015	Flood Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX			-	-	-	(994)
5016	Media Professional Liability Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX			5,100	4,900	3,723	3,615
5050	President	P. MILLER			12,500	14,500	14,500	6,657
5061	VP - Programs	McGIFFIN			-	-	-	-
5062	VP - Community Services	THOMPSON			-	-	-	-
5063	VP - Administration	TSUZUKI			-	-	-	-
5064	VP - Local Operations	STEVENSON			100	28,806	26,100	-
5070	Secretary	COLBURN			-	-	-	-
5080	Treasurer	DAVIS			850	501	850	-
5090	Past President	DAY			-	-	-	-
5095	Legal Counsel	ELIAS-WILLIAMS			750	-	1,250	
5099	Board/Executive Committee	P. MILLER			58,900	52,100	58,900	87,837
5130	USMS Headquarters Admin.	KUHLMAN/WATSON			173,460	178,450	184,636	182,746
5135	USMS Headquarters Payroll	HUGHES/KUHLMAN			482,545	466,995	463,842	423,427
5300	Convention	PORTER			105,960	104,060	105,460	90,496
5310	Finance Committee	ENSIGN			-	150	150	-
5315	Investment Committee	DODSON			1,000	1,000	1,000	211
5330	Audit Committee	DILWORTH			5,600	4,025	5,600	4,542
5340	Compensation & Benefits	COATES			-	-	-	-
5630	FINA Representative	GOLDSTEIN			-	-	-	-
5640	International Delegate / UANA	J. MILLER/GOLDSTEIN			2,500	6,000	7,500	-
5660	USA Swimming Liaison	TSUZUKI			2,300	2,300	2,300	795
5670	ISHOF Liaison	REID			1,900	1,750	1,900	822
5830	Outside Legal Expense	HUGHES/ELIAS-WILLIAMS			15,000	15,000	15,000	1,618
5847	SSL Fund Operating Costs	BRENNER			-	22,150	22,150	19,473
5846	April ALTS Month	HUGHES			-	12,500	12,500	-
5870	Depreciation & Sitecore Amortization	KUHLMAN/WATSON			45,960	11,485	15,000	17,106
6010	Banking Fees	KUHLMAN			4,600	4,600	4,500	4,346
5873	Audit/Accounting Fees	KUHLMAN			23,090	21,500	21,500	21,410
	Administration Expense				959,975	969,932	985,500	877,483
	Total Expense				3,921,482	3,749,886	3,971,077	3,518,908
	NET ORDINARY INCOME				(8,561)	2,982	(18,773)	(79,750)

U.S. Masters Swimming, Inc.							
2018 Draft Budget 9/05/2017 (Pre-Convention)							
				PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT				BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
	Cost Center:	Members	Fee	2018	2017	2017	2016*
OTHER INCOME / EXPENSE:							
OTHER INCOME:							
4900	Interest & Dividends	DODSON		150,000	156,000	120,000	65,907
4940	Gain (loss)-Disposal of Fixed Assets	N/A		-	-	-	(208)
4945	Gain (loss)-Leasehold Improvements	N/A		-	-	-	-
	Other Income			150,000	156,000	120,000	65,699
OTHER EXPENSES & TRANSFERS:							
	Transfer from Opportunity Reserve			-	-	72,810	-
6300	Transfer from Investment Account			96,200	90,600	90,600	-
6100	Amortization-Registration system			-	24,558	24,558	24,564
6011	Investment Advisory Fees	DODSON		12,200	11,600	11,600	11,448
	Other Expenses & Transfers			108,400	126,758	199,568	36,012
	Total Net Other Income			41,600	29,242	(79,568)	29,687
	NET INCOME			33,039	32,224	(98,341)	(50,063)
*2016 Final Actual was for operating funds only. Activity for Swimming Saves Lives Foundation and Legacy Fund were not included.							

Bridge to 2018 Budget

2017 Forecast Net Operating Loss (as of 6/30/17)		\$ 2,982
2018 Draft Budget Changes vs. 2017 Forecast		
Net Department Changes		
Membership, Net	7,024	
Program Services, Net	(894)	
Marketing and Sponsorship, Net	(8,800)	
Events, Net	(38,701)	
College Club, Net	24,552	
Administration, Net	(325)	
Other, Net	5,600	
Total Change in Net Departments		(11,543)
Change in Net Operating Income/(Loss)		\$ (8,561)

2018 DRAFT BUDGET PREPARATION TIMELINE

DESCRIPTION	DATE	Responsible Party	Volunteer Review
1. Prepare budget production schedule for distribution by the CEO/CFO to the Board, FC, C&B and staff. (All committee chairs need to be informed of worksheet distribution and due dates. Some committees schedule meetings to discuss the next year's budget.)	5/1/2017	CEO/CFO	
2. Distribute 2 nd quarter forecast update requests, include 2018 budget worksheets. Note: this will be done in early June w/ details of actual expenses through May.	6/12/2017	CFO/SA	
3. Staff retreat- discuss strategic plan and budget initiatives that support plan. TBD	6/14/2017	CEO	
4. Staffing plan for 2018 and for five-year plan. Comp & Benefits Committee w/ CEO input: submit staffing, compensation and benefit plan for 2018 budget.	6/23/2017	Comp. & Benefits/CEO	C&B Comm.
5. Receive all 2017 forecast/2018 budget requests. Include all assumptions. New programs must be accompanied by goals/objectives/outcomes document. Factors that impact five-year plan must also be submitted.	6/23/2017	Committee Chairs/Staff	All Committee Chairs, V.Ps over same committees
6. Create draft budget w/ all assumptions for internal review. CEO/Treasurer/CFO review and request 2018 budget adjustments.	7/10/2017	CEO/T/CFO/SA	Treasurer
7. Draft budget presentation of assumptions, goals and objectives. New programs presented & reviewed. BOD approves and/or recommends changes as discussed at summer meeting.	July 15-16	T/CEO/CFO	BOD
8. Incorporating the Board comments/proposals, the CFO and CEO shall compile a forecast for the remainder of the year and a detailed annual budget and review with the Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair	WK of July 17		Treasurer/FC Chair
Note: The 2 nd quarter annual forecast should be sent to the BOD/FC and Staff by July 31.	7/21/2017		BOD/FC
9. 4th Monday in August – Note: due to late calendar timing, recommend that this is moved to the 3 rd Monday in August. The CEO shall submit the following to the Finance Committee and the Board: business plan; organizational goals; summary financial plan; funding priorities; and related detailed annual budget. The Finance Committee shall also receive a summary of all travel for the National Office and volunteers. The CEO is required to submit a no deficit Net Ordinary Income Budget, unless authorized by the Board; (Actual 8/11/17)	8/11/2017	CEO, CFO, T, FC	BOD/FC
10. Finance Committee Call to discuss budget Note: not much time for scheduling meetings.	8/15/2017	FC, T, CFO, CEO	FC, T, P

2018 DRAFT BUDGET PREPARATION TIMELINE

DESCRIPTION	DATE	Responsible Party	Volunteer Review
11. Finance Committee Call to discuss budget.	8/22/2017	FC, T, CFO, CEO, C&B Chair	FC, T, P
12. Final pre-convention budget distributed to FC	TBD		FC, T, P
13. Work on PowerPoint presentation		FC Chair, T, CFO, CEO	FC Chair, T, P
14. Post budget materials to USMS website include executive summary of all program revenues.	By 9/7/17	NO	
15. 1 st day of the Annual Meeting – FC shall meet to review any open budget items.	9/13/2017	FC, T, CFO	
16. 2 nd day of the Annual Meeting – FC shall approve the detailed budget and submit to the Board for review, modification and approval prior to sending to the HOD	9/14/2017	FC, T, CFO	
17. 3 rd day of the Annual Meeting – The Board shall approve and recommend a detailed budget to send to the HOD. Any Board modifications to a single line item greater than \$10,000 shall be sent back to the FC for review and comments, prior to BOD submission to the HOD	9/15/2017	BOD	
18. 3 rd day of the Annual Meeting – FC shall present the budget to the HOD for review	9/15/2017	FC, HOD	
19. 4 th day of the Annual Meeting – the HOD approves the budget	9/16/2017	HOD	

KEY

HOD = House of Delegates

CC = Committee Chairs

FC = Finance Committee

CEO = Dawson Hughes

SA = Staff Accountant-Lynn Watson

P = President - Patty Miller

T = Treasurer - Ralph Davis

BOD = Board of Directors

CFO = Chief Financial Officer - Susan Kuhlman

NO = National Office

CHECK-IN AND CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE AT USMS CONVENTION

Each delegate must complete the two-step process outlined below. You must have a "certified ID" to vote as a member of the House of Delegates (HOD) and be eligible to attend HOD meetings!

- 1) **CHECK IN AT THE UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS (USAS) STATION** to pick up your ID - a badge with your name & LMSC on it. You will also receive a convention bag, binder, and miscellaneous souvenirs.

AND

- 2) **CHECK IN AT THE USMS TABLE** to obtain "certification" that you are a USMS delegate. This is the process that verifies a delegate's eligibility to vote in the House of Delegates (HOD). You will also receive your voting cards and other important convention material and information.

The USMS Certification/Information table will be open as follows:

Wednesday, September 13th, from 8:00am – 5:00pm – Marsalis A

Thursday, September 14th from 7:00am -7:45am – Marsalis A. Thursday afternoon thru Saturday – Back of the HOD room or come find Mary.

The USMS Certification/Information table will move to inside the HOD meeting room Thursday afternoon, September 14th (Reunion G/H). All subsequent certification by USMS will take place here during HOD meetings, until they recess. (Refer to the meeting schedule in your pre-convention packet and/or binder for time and location). Late arrivals **must** locate Mary Hull (Certification Chair) to receive their certification and voting cards.

New Delegates will receive a special ID identifying them as NEW DELEGATES as well as information regarding the New Delegate Orientation.



Proposed Standing Rules of the USMS Annual Meeting of 2017

Rule 1

The first item of business of each meeting of the House shall be the Secretary's report of the number of certified delegates and others registered as present.

Rule 2

The Secretary shall be the arbiter of certified membership in the House. Certification and membership decisions of the Secretary may be appealed to the Executive Committee. Decisions of the Executive Committee may be appealed to the House. Within the session of the House, once a member has been certified, they may only be de-certified by a 2/3's vote of the House.

Rule 3

All meetings of the House are open to the public. However, the privilege of speaking in the House is limited to 1) certified House members or 2) Guests of the president. The president shall provide the Secretary with a list of Guests of the president prior to them speaking in the House. Guests of the president shall not be allowed to speak to or vote on any motions; however, guests may respond to "Requests for Information" if recognized by the presiding officer.

Rule 4

Action items contained within annual reports or meeting minutes that require House action shall be presented as main motions to the House. Acceptance or approval of reports and minutes does not bind the House to actions described within the report.

Rule 5

No member shall speak in debate more than once on the same question, on the same day, or for longer than three minutes, without Suspension of the Rules granted by two thirds vote of the House. A motion to suspend the rule allowing a member or members to speak more than once or for longer than 3 minutes, if made during debate on a question, requires a second, is non-debatable and is only in force while the question is before the House. However a member or guest of the president, at the direction of the presiding officer, may respond to a request for information from a member with the floor.

Rule 6

Motions shall be made from the microphones. Original main motions and amendments to them shall be submitted, in writing, to the clerk of the House prior to debate on the motion. Written submission may be waived by consent of the House. Requests to "pull" proposed amendments to code and budget line items may be made from the microphone or from the floor of the House.

Rule 7

All motions, in the House, shall be recorded, in writing, with the name of the maker.

Rule 8

If a motion to call for the question is made and accepted by 2/3 of the House, any member in line at a microphone shall be recognized to speak for their allotted time.

Rule 9

Elections shall be run in accordance with the USMS Election Operating Guidelines.

Who's Who



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

USMS Leadership and Staff 2017

An abridged directory

Board of Directors



President
Patty Miller



VP Administration
Ed Tsuzuki



VP Local Operations
Chris Stevenson



VP Community Services
Skip Thompson



VP Programs
Chris McGiffin



Secretary
Chris Colburn



Treasurer
Ralph Davis



Immediate Past President
Nadine Day



**At-Large Director
Breadbasket**
Tom Moore



**At-Large Director
Colonies**
David Diehl



At-Large Director, Dixie
Past President
Rob Copeland



**At-Large Director
Great Lakes**
Dan Cox



**At-Large Director
Northwest**
Sarah Welch



**At-Large Director
Oceana**
Leianne Crittenden



**At-Large Director
South Central**
Ed Coates



**At-Large Director
Southwest**
Laura Winslow



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

Non-Voting Board Members



Past President
Tom Boak



Past President
Mel Goldstein



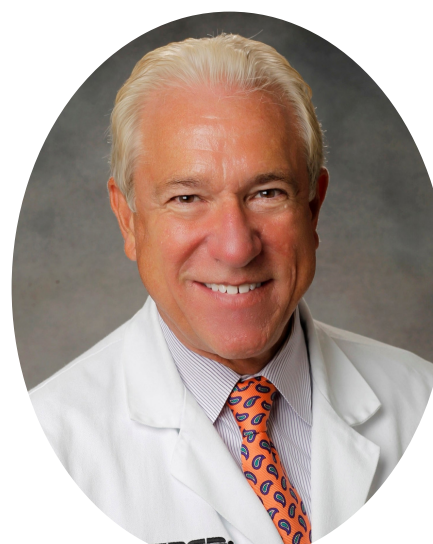
Past President
Dan Gruender



Past President
Ted Haartz



Past President
Mike Laux



Past President
Dr. Jim Miller



Past President
Jeff Moxie



Past President
Nancy Ridout



Chief Executive Officer
Dawson Hughes



Legal Counsel
Maria Elias-Williams



USA Swimming Representative
Dave Coddington



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

Committee Chairs



Audit

Elyce Dilworth



Championship

Jeff Roddin



Coaches

Bob Jennings



Comp. and Benefits

Ed Coates



Elections

Cheryl Gettelfinger



Finance

Jeanne Ensign



Fitness Education

Mary Jurey



Governance

Leianne Crittenden



History & Archives

Barbara Dunbar



Investment

Phil Dodson



Legislation

Meg Smath



LMSC Development

Michael Moore



Long Distance

Donn Livoni



Officials

Brian Albright



Open Water

Bob Bruce



Recognition & Awards

Ray Novitske



Records & Tabulation

Jeanne Seidler



Registraton

Leo Letendre



Rules

Charles Cockrell



Sports Medicine & Science

Meg Carlson



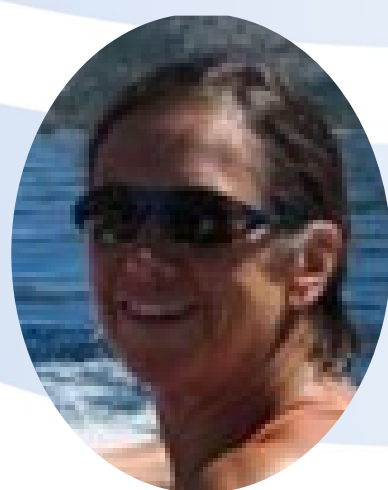
Swimming Saves Lives Foundation

Brandon Franklin



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

Zone Chairs



Breadbasket
Marcia Anziano



Colonies
Natalie Taylor



Dixie
Matt Hooper



Great Lakes
CJ Rushman



Northwest
Sally Dillon



Oceana
Michael Moore



South Central
Bruce Rollins

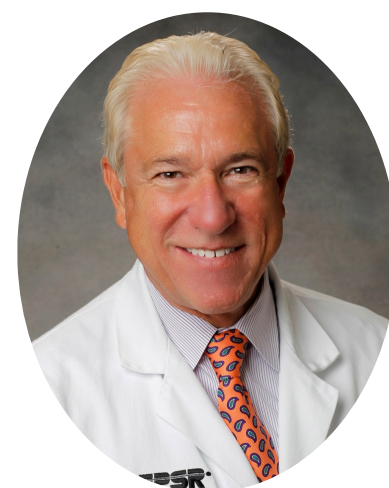


Southwest
Mary Hull

Appointments & Liaisons



**FINA/UANA
Representative**
Mel Goldstein



**FINA Sports Medicine
Committee & UANA
Masters Committee**
Dr. Jim Miller



ISHOF Liaison
Walt Reid



**National Board of
Review Chair**
Barbara Delanois



**US Aquatic Sports
Representative**
Patty Miller



**US Aquatic
Sports Treasurer**
Tom Boak



**USMS Liaison
to IGLA**
Sean Fitzgerald



**USMS Liaison to
USA Swimming**
Ed Tsuzuki



**National Senior
Games Liaison**
William Tingley



**UANA Masters Athlete
Representative**
Nadine Day

National Office Staff



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**



**Chief Executive
Officer**

Dawson Hughes



**Chief Financial
Officer**

Susan Kuhlman



**Chief Operating
Officer**

Bill Brenner



**Sr. Membership
Director**

Jessica Porter



**Member Services
Coordinator**

Steve Hall



**Volunteer Services
Coordinator**

Onshalee Promchitmart



**Events & Programs
Coordinator**

Casey Keiber



**Club & Coach
Services Manager**

Marianne Groenings



**ALTS & Foundation
Programs Manager**

Holly Neumann



Staff Accountant

Lynn Watson



Web Developer

Sterling Webb



**Administrative
Assistant**

Melanie Jaudon



Marketing Director

Kyle Deery



**Business Development
Manager**

Jay Eckert



**Publications &
Communications
Director**

Laura Hamel



Publications Manager

Daniel Paulling



**Club Development
Coordinator**

Mel Goldstein



**National Swims
Coordinator**

Mary Beth Windrath



**Open Water Compliance
Coordinator**

Bill Roach



Robert's Rules of Order – the Basics

The purpose of “Robert's Rules of Order” includes the following:

- Ensure majority rule
- Protect the rights of the minority, the absentees and individual members
- Provide order, fairness and decorum
- Facilitate the transaction of business and expedite meetings

Basic Principles

- All members have equal rights, privileges and obligations
- Full and free discussion of every motion is a basic right
- Only one question at a time may be considered, and only one person may have the floor at any one time
- Members have a right to know what the immediately pending question is and to have it restated before a vote is taken
- No person can speak until recognized by the chair
- Personal remarks are always out of order
- A majority decides a question except when basic rights of members are involved
- A two-thirds vote is required for any motion that deprives a member of rights in any way (e.g., cutting off debate)
- Silence gives consent. Those who do not vote allow the decision to be made by those who do vote
- The chair should always remain impartial

Role of the Presiding Officer

- Remain impartial during debate - the presiding officer must relinquish the chair in order to debate the merits of a motion
- Vote only to create or break a tie (or 2/3 for matters requiring a 2/3 vote) – exception: the presiding officer may vote on any vote by ballot
- Introduce business in proper order
- Recognize speakers
- Determine if a motion is in order
- Keep discussion germane to the pending motion
- Maintain order
- Put motions to a vote and announce results

General Procedure for Handling a Motion

- A member must obtain the floor by being recognized by the chair
- Member makes a main motion
- A motion must be seconded by another member before it can be considered
- If the motion is in order, the chair will restate the motion and open debate (if the motion is debatable)
- The maker of a motion has the right to speak first in debate
- The main motion is debated along with any Subsidiary motions (e.g. “I move to amend the motion by ...”, Privileged motions (e.g. “I move to postpone the motion to ...”) and Incidental motions (e.g. “I move to divide the question.”)



- Debate on Subsidiary, Privileged and Incidental motions (if debatable) takes precedence over debate on the main motion and must be decided before debate on the main motion can continue.
- Debate is closed when:
 - Discussion has ended, or
 - A two-thirds vote closes debate ("Call the question")
- The chair restates the motion, and if necessary clarifies the consequences of affirmative and negative votes
- The chair calls for a vote by asking "All in favor?" Those in favor say "Aye" (or in HOD, hold up the Green "Yes" card). Then asking "All opposed?" Those opposed will say "No" (or in HOD, hold up the Red "No" card). And finally asking "All abstained?" Those abstaining will say "Aye" (or in HOD, hold up the White "Abstain" card)
- The chair announces the result

General Rules of Debate

- No members may speak until recognized by the chair
- All discussion must be relevant to the immediately pending question
- No member can speak more than once to each motion
- No member can speak more than three minutes
- All remarks must be addressed to the chair – no cross debate is permitted
- It is not permissible to speak against one's own motion (but one can vote against one's own motion)
- Debate must address issues not personalities – no one is permitted to make personal attacks or question the motives of other speakers
- The presiding officer must relinquish the chair in order to participate in debate and cannot reassume the chair until the pending main question is disposed of
- When possible, the chair should let the floor alternate between those speaking in support and those speaking in opposition to the motion
- Members may not disrupt the assembly
- Rules of debate can be changed by a two-thirds vote

Robert's Rules Help Get Things Done!

- **Make Motions** – that are in order
- **Obtain the Floor** – properly
- **Speak** – clearly and concisely
- **Obey** – the rules of debate
- And most of all, be courteous! That's **always** in order!

Recommended Books

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Edition, 2000

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, In Brief, Thomas J. Balch, 2004

Robert's Rules for Dummies, C. Alan Jennings, 2004

A-B-C's of Parliamentary Procedure. Co, Channing L. Bete, 1998

Recommended Web Sites

www.robertsrules.com | www.rulesonline.com | www.parlipro.org |
www.robertsrules.org | www.roberts-rules.com