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# **USMS SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS & LIAISONS ANNUAL REPORTS**

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## **AMATEUR SWIMMING UNION OF THE AMERICAS REPRESENTATIVE (ASUA)**

**Jim Miller, MD**

**Mel Goldstein**

This report is filed on behalf of Mel Goldstein and me who serve as the USAS representatives to Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas (ASUA). We both sit on the ASUA Masters Technical Committee.

ASUA was late going forward with their plans for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Masters Pan American Championships. However, after receiving 5 different bids the Executive Committee of ASUA endorsed San Juan, Puerto Rico as the host and set the competition dates for August 31 through September 3. The Masters Technical Committee Meeting is to be conducted on August 30, which is the same as the warm-up day for the meet.

ASUA rotates the presidency every 4 years to a different geographic location within the Americas and Caribbean nations. Thus, ASUA President Mr. Orban Mendoza's term in office is coming to a close. His successor has yet to be officially announced, but we do know that the next president will come from Canada. Mr. Mendoza established the Masters Pan American Championships, as one of his legacies. Hopefully, this event will continue to expand and serve all athletes in our hemisphere as the participation expands along with the number of aquatic sports being offered.

ASUA has a new President, Eldon Godfrey, from Canada. Mr. Mendoza's term was over and it was Canada's turn by the rotation system that ASUA uses. Mr. Mendoza's contributions to ASUA include the expansion of the competition schedule to include Open Water and Masters in the championship schedule. Mr. Godfrey will be appointing or reappointing Technical Committee Chairs in the near future.

The Second Masters Pan American Championships will be held August 31-September 3 in Puerto Rico in a new facility, just completed 12/06. The Masters Technical Committee meetings will be held August 30 during the warm-up day.

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## **CONTROLLER**

**Margaret Bayless**

On-going routine activities, to include weekly check runs, monthly payroll review, monthly bank reconciliations, monthly financial statement preparations with commentary, various analyses, and quarterly budget spending report distributions continue without exception.

During the period March through May, Clifton Gunderson LLP, USMS' external auditors, audited the 2006 financial records, which were presented to them in February. Throughout this process, I prepared various write-ups, analyses, and other requested supporting documents. The audit report was issued May 25, with no adjusting entries made. The 2006 tax return has been completed and is expected to be filed in June. The 2006 audited financial statements will be available for review at Convention.

In 2006, USMS had a small federal tax liability as a result of the generation of unrelated business income largely attributed to the new SWIMMER magazine contract, which affords USMS the opportunity to earn advertising revenue.

The 2007 budget was completed and published shortly after the 2006 Convention. To date, there have been 5 over-budget requests, 4 of which were approved. The 2008 budget template was revamped and prepared in Excel, which should make the budget preparation process easier for all.

Further input was provided to the On-Line Registration task force regarding concerns and opportunities related to developing the on-line membership registration system.

At the end of this section, you will find the notes to the Financial Presentation that I will be presenting during the House of Delegates meeting.

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## USMS CORPORATE PARTNER LIAISON Mel Goldstein

We are now in the 2<sup>nd</sup> year of the USMS Corporate Partner Program where we established 3 levels of opportunities for Corporate Partners to participate with USMS (Gold, Silver, and Bronze). This program to date has been very successful, and has established greater value for USMS Corporate Partners by including advertising in "USMS Swimmer" magazine as part of the corporate partner agreement. Today we have 2 "Gold" level partners (TYR and Speedo), 6 "Silver" level partners (NIKE Swimwear, FINIS, Kast A Way Swimwear, Adolph Kiefer, SwimOutlet.com, and Bank of America), 3 "Bronze" level partners (Barracuda, Endless Pools, and Ultra Swim). These USMS Corporate Partners provide over \$100,000 each year in support of various USMS programs. When the opportunity arises support our USMS Corporate Partners.

As of September the second USMS Tradeshow display will be on line. This USMS promotional tool continues to be a valuable tool for clubs and LMSC's to use to promote Masters Swimmers and obtain new members. The hope is now with the second display s we can better serve the clubs and LMSC's with their requests and no one will be turned away because of conflicting dates.

The responsibilities of the USMS Corporate Partner Liaison were expanded to include club and LMSC development. In my effort to promote USMS at various conventions and clinics I attended the National Parks and Recreation Associations National Aquatic Conference, the YMCA Aquatic Directors Expo, and the American Swim Coaches Association World Clinic. At the YMCA Expo I was asked to be a part of a discussion panel discussing new programs for adults in aquatics, and for 2008 have been asked to provide a workshop for the National Parks and Recreation Associations National Aquatic Conference. These conferences and clinics continue to be a great source of exposure for USMS.

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## FINA REPRESENTATIVE Nancy Ridout

The FINA Masters Committee met in Perth, June 18-19. The final report from the XI FINA Masters World Championships was received and appreciation was expressed by the committee Chair and FINA's Executive Director for the information contained in the report. They have never received such a detailed and complete report following a Championships and it will be a great aide for subsequent Local Organizing Committees. I also presented the committee members with a CD of action from all the aquatic sports that was produced and edited by Phil Bowen.

The committee toured the facilities for the XII World Championships in Perth, next April. It is a fine facility and all the disciplines will take place right there, except for some preliminary water polo games. Pools (one outdoor and one indoor) for Swimming will alternate by day for men and women. They seem to be well-organized and eager to make this World Championships an excellent event.

All the recommendations from the Congress held at Stanford were approved by the FINA Bureau.

A seven-day program of events for Swimming at FINA World Championships was developed and adopted. The Water Polo schedule used at Stanford will be used at Perth.

No times swum at meets not directly related to FINA will be accepted for FINA Top Ten or World Records. This would include events such as Sr. Games, Y Nationals (were they to be in meters), Gay Games, World Games (or anything with Games in the title) or any event whose title includes an organization not a member of FINA.

The next meeting will be held April 15-16, 2008, before the World Championships in Perth.

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## INSURANCE COORDINATOR

**Colleen Driscoll**

Our loss experience continues to be very good and we hope that this will be positively reflected in our insurance premium renewals. Numerous questions regarding our insurance coverage are fielded by the Insurance Coordinator. Coverages and limits continue to be reviewed. We have been notified by our insurance broker that our Bonding insurance will change upon renewal. More information will be available at Convention and will be discussed.

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## INTERNAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME LIAISON

**June Krauser**

THE INTERNATIONAL SWIMMING HALL OF FAME 43<sup>RD</sup> Annual TOYOTA Honoree Induction Weekend took place on May 10-12, 2007. The weekend was packed full of receptions and awards. I attended the two award evenings. On May 11<sup>th</sup> the Annual Paragon Aquatics awards were presented for *Competitive Swimming, Synchronized Swimming, Competitive Diving, Aquatic Safety, Recreational Swimming, and Water Polo*. These awards took place at ISHOF.

The Reception and Dinner honoring the Class of 2007 took place at the Fort Lauderdale Convention Center on May 12th with Donna de Varona and Debbie Meyer introducing all of the Honorees. Sydney Battersby (GBR) *Honor Pioneer Swimmer*, Manuel Estiarte (ESP) *Honor Water Polo Player*, Bob Helmick (USA) *Honor Contributor*, Penny Heynes (RSA) *Honor Swimmer*, Mikako Kotani (JPN) *Honor Synchronized Swimmer*, Debbie Muir (CAN) *Honor Synchronized Swimming Coach*, Ratko Rudic (YUG/ITA/USA/CRO) *Honor Water Polo Coach*, Sun Shuwei (SHN) *Honor Diver*, and Amy Van Dyken (USA) *Honor Swimmer*. There were many past Honorees with their red sashes in attendance. All had their picture taken before the dinner and as their picture appeared on the screen they were introduced in that way. Esther Williams was the Gold Medallion Award winner but was not present except in a clever piece of photography with ISHOF CEO Bruce Wigo. The evening was one of sheer delight! Everyone received a copy of the International Swimming Hall of Fame 2007 Yearbook, Celebrating 100 years of Women in Swimming. Truly, an inspirational Book. Check with ISHOF on how you can get a copy.

The 2007 IMSHOF Honorees will be inducted at the XXVIII United States Aquatic Sports Convention taking place in Garden Grove, CA September 25-30, 2007. Female Swimmers include Jean Durston (USA), Karlyn Pipes-Neilson (USA) and Judy Wilson (GBR)> The three male swimmers are Woodrow Bowersock (USA), Sandy Gallety (USA/GBR) and Ronald Johnson (USA). Tom Hairabedian (USA) Diving, Carol Fitzsimmons (CAN) Synchro and Suzanne Heim Bowen (USA) Open Water.

The IMSHOF has announced the nominees for 2008. The ballot has been sent to the Selection Committee and is due July 18, 2007. The five women Swimmers include Anne Adams (USA), Maria Lenk (BRA/USA), Margery Meyer (USA), Willy van Rysel (GBR) and Gertrude Zint (USA). The five men Swimmers include Edward Cazalet (USA), Karl Hauter (USA), Paul Krup (USA), Jim McConica (USA) and Robert Strand (USA). Ibone Belausteguigoitia (MEX) Diving and Russell Hafferkamp (USA) Water Polo.

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## NATIONAL BOARD OF REVIEW CHAIR

**Jack Geoghegan**

An appeal was received. A panel was created to review it.

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## USMS NATIONAL PUBLICATION EDITOR

**Bill Volckening**

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This year has been another very busy, productive year for SWIMMER Magazine. Since the 2006 convention, we have released five issues of SWIMMER. The sixth issue is in the works and will be released in early September.

During the year, we faced publishing staff transitions when two key members of the Douglas Murphy Communications (DMC) publishing team – Managing Editor Virginia Sowers and Art Director David Balch – moved on to other opportunities outside the company. DMC was quick to respond, hiring Bill Edwards as new Managing Editor and promoting Associate Art Director Rick Gutierrez to Art Director. Both transitions took place seamlessly, and DMC enhanced its already strong lineup by adding supplemental staff in addition to the Managing Editor and Art Director.

Following the May/June issue of SWIMMER, two additional proofreaders were added to our production team: USMS Secretary Meg Smath, and an independent proofreader hired by DMC.

We continued to solicit new ideas and comments from readers and members, reviewed progress and made decisions for the upcoming year during the Annual Planning meeting in July. Annual Planning was held a little later than usual and included results from the Strategic Planning meeting. In addition to the USMS National Publication Editor and DMC Staff, USMS President Rob Copeland, Executive Director Todd Smith, Secretary Meg Smath, and Editorial Committee Chair Lynn attended the Annual Planning meeting.

The USMS Editorial Committee continued to participate in a significant number of discussions and activities guiding the business management of SWIMMER Magazine. For more behind-the-scenes activities involving the magazine, please refer to the Editorial Committee report. Thank you to everyone who contributed to another great year!

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### **NATIONAL SENIOR GAMES LIAISON**

#### **Bill Tingley**

The National Senior Games swimming competition was held in Louisville, Kentucky, June 27-July 2. The total number of swimmers in the meet was 828, with 361 in the 50-64 age groups, and 467 in the 65 and over age groups.

The competition was recognized by the Kentucky LMSC. Bill Tingley served as a USMS observer for the meet. There were 441 USMS-registered swimmers. Ten USMS records were broken by USMS-registered swimmers. All times for USMS-registered swimmers will be reported as USMS Top Ten Times for the 2008 Short Course Top Ten.

Jan Goff, Officials Chair for Kentucky Swimming, was Meet Referee and officiated according to all rules of USMS. All officials were certified as stroke and turn judges, starters or referees by USA Swimming, the NCAA and the National High School Federation.

It was noted during post-meet evaluation, that in many cases entry data was neither accurate nor complete. Data recording and/or handling methods will need to be improved or revised for subsequent Games. For example, a number of entry times given to the local competition director, from the NSGA office and various State Games competitions, were incorrect.

A swimmer must qualify for the National Senior Games by using placement and time standards from a State Senior Games, which are run according to USMS rules. Therefore, LMSCs should be encouraged to recognize and get involved with their State Games, working to make sure the competition is run to USMS standards. (Note: The incorrectly reported times came from poorly run and recorded State Games.)

It has been a rewarding experience assisting both USMS swimmers and the National Senior Games in our quest to provide quality competitive opportunities for adult swimmers. Our hope is that our work will continue with the NSGA — as USMS and the NSGA have a lot in common in sponsoring competition for adults 50 and over.

In conclusion, the 2009 National Senior Games will be held August 1-15 in San Francisco, Calif. The 2011 National Senior Games will be held June 19-July 5 in Houston, Texas. Qualifying times for the National Games must be

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earned at a State Senior Games in 2008 and 2010, respectively. A list of those State Games can be found at: [www.nsga.com](http://www.nsga.com).

### **RULE BOOK COORDINATOR** **Susan Ehringer**

The 2007 rule book could not have been published without the efforts of Cheryl Gettelfinger; Walt Reid; Tracy Grilli; Kathy Casey and the Rules Committee; and Marcia Cleveland and the Long Distance Committee. Everyone worked very diligently in reviewing the book and getting their tasks completed on time. Meg Smath assisted with her knowledge and support.

Several advertisers were a little late on getting advertisements to me last year. This year Cheryl and I decided to try to get as many ads prior to the Convention as possible.

Few comments were made about the publication of the rule book. Tracy did receive one box that was busted open and did not receive one box. These problems were discussed with the printer and the problem was resolved. The printer, Westerfield-Bonte, printed the book on a digital printing press, saving over \$4000. (There were 354 less rule books and 200 less mini rule books printed.) In going with the digital printer rather than offset, there is no additional set up charge if more rule books are needed. The quality of the digital press is not as high as an offset press.

A notice was published in *USMS SWIMMER* calling for submissions for the cover contest and bids. So far we have received several cover submissions from three different individuals. Only two bids have been received for the printing of the rule book and the mini rule book.

#### **Discussions and projects since the last convention:**

1. Susan has started reviewing and compiling changes for the 2008 Rule Book.
2. Cheryl has started contacting advertisers for the 2008 Rule Book.
3. Susan has contacted other Committee Chairs about possible dedications.

#### **Action items:**

1. Consult with various Committee and Executive Board members about the Rule Book Dedication

#### **Agenda for convention:**

1. Announce the winner of the Rule Book Cover based on voting by Convention Attendees
2. Announce the Rule Book Dedication

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### **UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS (USAS) REPRESENTATIVE** **Rob Copeland**

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The rules of the Federation Internationale de Natation (FINA) require there to be only one recognized member federation of FINA in each country throughout the world. For the United States of America, that member federation is United States Aquatic Sports (USAS). USAS organizes and facilitates our annual convention and USAS speaks for the USA to FINA and ASUA. USAS deliberately attempts to play a minimal role within the United States, leaving primary responsibility for the governance of each of the aquatic sports to the members of USAS.

The 2006 House of Delegates directed the USAS Representative to approach USAS to determine what if anything could be done to assist in lifting of the sanction placed by FINA against LatyCar and WAMO. The USAS board heard our request and determined they would work with the new ASUA president, Eldon C. Godfrey, to pursue this matter.

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### **US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE LIAISON** **Hill Carrow**

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Last year I was able to spend significant quality time with many of the US Olympic executives at the US Olympic Assembly, a relatively new national meeting/mini-convention hosted by the USOC for the "US Olympic Family," which includes their Board members, major sponsors, Olympic bid cities, and sport national governing bodies. In 2006, that meeting was held in June, allowing for good interaction and good timing for my annual report to USMS.

Unfortunately this year, they have moved that meeting to October. I have been working with several key Olympic Committee execs on a potential speaking engagement here in Raleigh where I expected to spend time with them locally. However, a trip to Beijing for them has thwarted those plans as well..

At this point, I plan to either visit the USOC offices in August, prior to our meeting in September, or simply wait until October's Olympic Assembly in Houston and save even more dollars than I usually do in this year's budget.

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### **USMS LIAISON TO INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN AQUATICS (IGLA)**

**Jessica Seaton**

IGLA held its annual championship in Paris France at the Paris Piscine G.Vallerey (25m). In addition to swimming, diving, open water swimming and water polo the championship included synchronized swimming for men as well as women.

The annual IGLA general meeting was held at this same event. IGLA has updated its standards of conduct process to reflect those of other governing bodies of aquatic sports and added open water swimming to its annual championships.

The 2008 IGLA Championships will be held in Washington D.C. in June 2008. DCAC and the Washington Wetskins will host this meet. This will take place at University of Maryland's world-class Campus Recreation Center Natatorium. More information can be found at [www.igla2008.org](http://www.igla2008.org).

Copenhagen, Denmark was tentatively chosen as the site for the 2009, IGLA Championships. The contract must be negotiated in 90 days to finalize this bid. The Copenhagen Mermates will host this meet.

The 2010 Gay Games are taking place in Cologne, Germany. The city will re-build an outdoor 50-meter pool for this event and will include open water swimming, diving, water polo, and synchronized swimming. The synchronized swimming will again include males.

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### **USMS LIAISON TO USA SWIMMING**

**F.H. "Ted" Haartz**

The USA Swimming Board of Directors met in Colorado Springs April 27-29, 2007.

First and of foremost interest to USMS was a request by USMS as to the status of dual sanctioning of events where USMS' LMSCs and USA Swimming's LSCs could hold events where, on an officially recognized basis, members of both organizations could compete in the same venue on the same dates enabling both organizations to share the costs and camaraderie that individual events would not provide and might not be viable due to the costs involved.

This item has been pending since 2006. The United States Swimming Insurance Company, Inc., (USSIC) a wholly owned subsidiary of USA Swimming, has voiced reservations as to the insurance risks of combining their USA Swimming events with USMS events and as of April had continued to recommend against such events. At this board meeting, the USA Swimming Board requested that USSIC reconsider this matter and to return by convention with a solution as to how dual sanctioned meets may be sanctioned and held as a practical matter and with the least risk to the youth of USA Swimming.

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With that directive, USSIC formed a task force to comply with the wishes of the USA Swimming board's request with the goal of an agreement that both boards, USMS and USA Swimming, will be able to ratify at the convention in September.

The next meeting of the board of USA Swimming will be held September 25 at 2:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency in Anaheim, CA.

At the end of this section, you will find an aquatic relationship chart which shows the USMS interactions with the other disciplines of United States Aquatic Sports and the interrelationships with the Continental, Hemispheric and International aquatic bodies. Worldwide, USMS is not an isolated entity within the aquatic community and that our actions can reflect upon our partners.

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## USMS LIAISON TO USA TRIATHLON

**Jill Gellatly**

### **Opening paragraph:**

The primary goal of this position is to promote growth of USMS membership by creating synergies with the USA Triathlon organization (an organization that has successfully created and managed tremendous growth in recent years).

### **Discussions and projects since the last convention:**

1. Formulated strategic plan for working with USA Triathlon and presented to BOD and Executive Committee for review, comments, suggestions during June planning session
2. Started preliminary discussions with USA Triathlon regarding synergies with the two organizations and how to overcome obstacles identified in strategic plan
3. Provided answers and resources to inquiries across a wide scope of open water swimming topics related to and/or in conjunction with USA triathlon events

### **Action items:**

- Create small committee to begin implementation of three main objectives noted below:
  - Increase communication and participation between USMS and USA Triathlon in order to better serve members of both communities
  - Create joints events with USA Triathlon which will foster growth opportunities for USMS
  - Partner with national organizations that provide triathlon training (ie: Team in Training)

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## USMS LIAISON TO YMCA

**Mel Goldstein**

The 2007 YMCA Masters National Swimming Championships was held at the IU Natatorium in Indianapolis, Indiana, April 12-15<sup>th</sup>. The meet was attended by 512 swimmers representing 62 different YMCA's throughout the country and Canada. Many YMCA National Records were broken along with several USMS National Records. The Sarasota Family YMCA won the Men and Combined Team Championships, while YMCA Indy SwimFit won the Women's and was runner up in the Combined Team Championships. The 2008 YMCA Masters National Swimming Championships are scheduled for May 18-21, 2008 in Ft. Lauderdale.

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## WEBMASTER/IT DIRECTOR

**Jim Matysek**

The USMS web operations continued this year at a steady pace. Our web server is currently hosting 50 web sites, including those used for USMS and USMS SWIMMER as well as zone, LMSC, and club web sites. The main USMS web site is receiving about 4 million hits per month. To help handle the load, we have obtained a second server and we are deploying this server as a dedicated database server. We have also moved our servers to a new hosting facility that is providing excellent service with no network outages thus far.

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Maintenance of existing web services and our installed hardware and software has steadily increased over the years and is currently taking a significant portion of my available time along with annual committed projects such as nationals support. All existing services require some level of support for end users and volunteers who are using our tools, plus enhancements and upgrades to services. Much of this year's activities have been focused on shoring up our infrastructure with respect to existing services and improving these services.

The main projects that are underway from now until convention are selecting and working with the chosen vendor to roll out online registration and developing better tools for managing the USMS SWIMMER web site. There are still lots of projects in the queue, and we will also be working to improve our ability to roll out new services by engaging contract developers to help with the development queue.