



## **Leianne Crittenden – Oceana Candidate At-Large**

The Election Committee has deemed that Leianne Crittenden 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 is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Peter Guadagni and received letters of recommendation from Peter Guadagni and Patty Miller. These letters follow the questionnaire.

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

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

2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

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

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

I have been involved at the LMSC and national level since I started swimming again. Those experiences let me see how varied the Masters program has been for other swimmers, whether they are in different LMSCs, or participate in different events (pool or open water), or in no events at all (and just swim for fitness). I think I can draw on my experience to make suggestions that will improve the programs we offer, so that every participant will get the best possible experience when they sign up for Masters swimming. In addition, as a member of the Governance Committee, I have a strong interest in participating as a Board Member.

**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 think that supporting teams and coaches is a major issue. We need to assure that resources are available to make sure that the National organization can provide resources to make sure there are strong local programs that are financially viable, with excellent coaching. We need to make sure that participants are trained in how to effectively run their events and their LMSCs, and provide them the tools to do that, so that our volunteer pool is not burned out by the demands of their positions. We need to assure that the national organization, through the Board, listens to members' concerns and addresses them.

**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:**

- Rules (Chair, Kathy Casey) Member: 2006, 2007, Vice Chair: 2008, 2009, 2010 (associate member, Vice Chair), co-Vice Chair 2012 and 2013
- Governance (Chair, Hugh Moore), currently vice chair
- LMSC Development (Chairs, Doug Adamavich, Paige Buehler) 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014
- Zone Committee (Chair, Julie Heather) 2007, 2008
- Championship Committee (Chair, Mark Moore) 2006
- Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee (Chair, Patty Powis Miller) 2005

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

Broad participation in Masters swimming events since 2003:

- National and World Championship meets, as well as open water events
- USMS Individual All American (pool) in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
- Selected for and attended USMS/USA High Altitude Training Camp at the United States Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, CO, 2005

Broad participation at LMSC and USMS level since 2004:

- Since 2004: Pacific Masters Fitness Chair, Vice President and currently Secretary;
- Since 2004: USMS Committee participation, as member and Vice Chair,

Oceana Zone chair 2008-2009

Worked to propose changes adopted by HOD and BOD: proposed rules changes for team scoring at Nationals, participated on Rules Committee task force to provide standards for transgender athletes, worked to provide administrative processes for dispute resolution.

Moderated seminars at conventions since 2008 as part of Zone and LMSC Development Programs.

- Recipient Dorothy Donnelly Service Award 2011
- Personal Achievement Award, Pacific Masters 2004
- Rookie of the Year, Walnut Creek Masters 2004

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

-BA, Stanford University, JD/MBA, UCLA. Associate General Counsel, Oracle America, Inc.

-Volunteer activities for American Bar Association 1998-2014 as Subcommittee and Committee Chair for Business Law Section

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

I have worked in the LMSC and National organizations for over ten years in many roles. I like the values that swimmers have, and enjoy the community and programs that USMS provides. I have been fortunate to compete at all levels, from local events to world championships and have always enjoyed participating. I realize that these events happen through the efforts of many volunteers, who are supported by the USMS organization. I look at the opportunity to serve on the Board as a way to continue to make the programs better, for all participants, at all levels of participation. As a member of the Governance Committee, I have a strong interest in being a Board member. I think my experience both professionally and through volunteer activities will prepare me well for being a Board member, and hope you will elect me!.

TO: USMS Election Committee  
FROM Peter Guadagni, Pacific Masters Swimming Chair  
DATE: March 26, 2014

SUBJECT: Nomination and Reference for Leianne Crittenden as At-Large Oceana Zone Director

I hereby nominate Leianne Crittenden for the position of Oceana Zone Director.

Leianne Crittenden will be an excellent addition to the USMS Board. She has the temperament, knowledge and wisdom to help guide our organization into the future.

As a former youth swimmer she understands what it takes to bring athletes back to the sport as adults.

As an elite, fitness and occasionally injured Masters swimmer she has firsthand knowledge of the diverse needs and motivations of our members.

As an attorney she can analyze and advise on difficult issues and recommend actions to reduce future risk.

As a businessperson in a successful and demanding company she knows what it takes for an organization to thrive.

As a USMS convention delegate and current or past member of numerous committees she has a broad perspective of USMS operations.

As a USMS volunteer she is willing to contribute at any level.

As a member of the Pacific Masters leadership team she honors her commitments and completes her responsibilities efficiently.

As a friend and club mate she exudes warmth and encouragement.

For these reasons and many more I enthusiastically endorse Leianne's candidacy for the Oceana Zone Director.

I authorize USMS to publish this letter.

Peter Guadagni

April 26, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger  
Election Committee Chair  
U.S. Masters Swimming

Re: Leianne Crittenden

Dear Cheryl:

It is my honor to recommend Leianne Crittenden for the position of U.S. Masters Swimming At-Large Delegate from the Oceana Zone. I believe that Leianne's understanding of what USMS can offer and what its members need, as well as her logical and informed approach to governance will make her an excellent board member.

I have come to know Leianne over the last decade through our joint involvement on committees. Like me, Leianne is an attorney, so I have had the pleasure to work with her on task forces and committees that touch on legal issues, adjudication, and governance. Leianne has approached these opportunities with a desire to understand and to bring order to USMS's structure and services. For example, while serving on the National Board of Review Task Force, Leianne, who had very limited previous exposure to the grievance process, was so driven to understand the system and improve the process that she performed the lion's share of overhauling and re-writing the portions of our rule book that deal with grievances and USMS's National Board of Review Procedures.

What has really impressed me about Leianne is that she has contributed greatly to so many other areas of USMS beyond the ones I mention above. She is truly a "renaissance" volunteer. Leianne is knowledgeable and passionate about offering the best poolside experience to USMS members. She has been an active leader in the Pacific LMSC, the largest LMSC in USMS, for a decade. She has served on the USMS Rules Committee for years, focusing on the "wet" side of our rules. She has contributed her LMSC knowledge to the LMSC Development Committee for the past four years.

Leianne would be a great addition to the USMS Board of Directors, so I am pleased to recommend her.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Miller

I consent to this letter being published.