



## **Laura Winslow – Southwest Candidate At-Large**

The Election Committee has deemed that Laura Winslow 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 Judy Gillies and received letters of recommendation from Jill Gellatly 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:**

San Diego, CA – 2003  
Greensboro, NC – 2004  
Orlando, FL - 2005  
Dearborn, MI – 2006  
Anaheim, CA – 2007  
Atlanta, GA – 2008  
Chicago, IL – 2009  
Dallas, TX – 2010  
Jacksonville FL – 2011  
Greensboro, NC – 2012  
Anaheim, CA - 2013

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

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

I am passionate about the sport of swimming. Since 2003 I have been a USMS volunteer, mostly on the national level. In 2004, I was one of 12 people selected to attend the masters' high altitude camp in Colorado Springs. With everything that this camp offered, this experience increased my desire to give back to the sport and organization that had invested in me.

In 2005, I was elected as an at-large BOD member, serving two terms. In this position, I chaired the first Executive Director Task Force and laid the ground work for the Executive Compensation and Benefits Committee.

With my diverse background as a CPA, experience in executive compensation and a swim coach, I offer the organization key knowledge and energy in areas that are important for its growth. I was also an assistant organizer for the 2003, 2011, 2012, and 2013 nationals,

I have enjoyed my previous service and demonstrated that I can get the job done. In assisting with the running of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 nationals, I have displayed my organizational skills. Having previously served on the board, I know how it operates and what is expected. If elected, I would be able to start fulfilling my duties from day one.

**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?**

Growth and retention, communication, and club and LMSC development are areas I see as critical to the health of our organization. As a member of the Board, I would oversee and govern USMS. Specifically, I would establish policy to lead the organization and provide strategic direction to help us grow. In addition, I would promote USMS outside the organization and educate non-members on the many benefits of joining.

**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:**

International 2003 – 2005; Sandy Rousseau  
Championship 2004 – 2005; Barry Fasbender  
Long Distance/Open Water 2007 – 2009; Marcia Cleveland

Coaches 2010 – 2011; Craig Keller  
Finance 2011 – 2014; Homer Lane and Jeanne Ensign  
Audit 2013 – 2014; Elyce Dilworth

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

I am a certified public accountant with over 25 years' experience in the business world, having practiced both accounting and executive compensation. In these roles, I have worked as part of a team as well as being a leader. I was also the controller for a kids swim team for two years, helping to meet budgetary constraints. I coached masters for five years and both boys and girls high school swimming for six, winning three state titles. I have also helped direct four national championships: May 2003, April 2011, April 2012, and August 2013. In addition, San Antonio has asked me to assist with the 2015 spring nationals.

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

Former Arizona Sanctions Chair  
Former Arizona LMSC Competition Committee Chair  
At-Large Board of Director: 2005 - 2010  
Chair Executive Director Search Committee; 2005 – 2007  
Chair Employee Compensation Task Force; 2005 - 2007  
Chair Dues Increase Task Force; 2006  
Member of Long Course Nationals Evaluation Committee; 2005  
Member of National Headquarters Task Force  
Member of Membership Dues Task Force  
Member of National Board of Review 2014

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

I would like to help lead USMS as the organization continues to grow, including taking the steps necessary to ensure the continued growth of masters swimming. In addition, I would like to develop policies and major plans, promote the organization, and help educate non-members.

Dear Cheryl Gettelfinger,

April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

I am the most recent past president of the Arizona LMSC, am currently the Officials Chair in the LMSC. I am writing this to nominate another long time Arizona LMSC member, Laura Winslow.

I would like to nominate Laura for the position of At-large Director from the SW Zone.

Sincerely yours,  
Judy Gillies,  
AZ LMSC

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

Dear Cheryl:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Laura Winslow for the Board of Directors At-Large Position from the South West Zone. I believe that Laura's extensive experience as a USMS volunteer at both the local and national levels has prepared her to serve the membership of USMS as a Director.

At the National level, Laura has been very active since 2003 in a variety of roles. Currently, she is active on the Finance Committee and a new member of the Audit Committee. These roles complement her extensive professional finance and executive compensation background. In addition, she previously served on the Board of Directors from 2005-2010 during a time when USMS was faced with numerous challenges. As USMS continues to grow its membership, and develop its brand, the experience and skill set that Laura will bring to the Board will be invaluable in taking this organization to the next level. Her ability to think strategically within fiscal boundaries is a great asset that is very unique to this organization.

I believe Laura's passion for the sport of swimming combined with her experience will enable her to make valuable contributions as a member of the USMS Board of Directors.

Please support her for this position.

Sincerely,  
Jill Gellatly

This letter may be published

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

Re: Laura Winslow

Dear Cheryl:

I am pleased to recommend Laura Winslow for the position of U.S. Masters Swimming At-Large Delegate from the Southwest Zone. Laura demonstrates a passion for giving to Masters Swimming and has contributed greatly for over a decade. I believe that Laura has much more to offer USMS as a member of the Board of Directors.

I was Legal Counsel for USMS when Laura was a member of the board from 2005 to 2010. Laura's board involvement came at a time when USMS was transitioning from being largely volunteer run to professionally managed. Laura was key to this transition by chairing the first Executive Director Task Force and helping to build needed staff support capacity for compensation and benefits. It is because of this involvement – and the ensuing years in which Laura has continued to be involved on the national level as a delegate and committee member – that I believe Laura understands the role of the board and would start her board service ready to function actively.

Laura's passion for Masters Swimming is evidenced by her involvement over the years as a swimmer, coach, LMSC volunteer, and nationals administrator. She is a supporter of the USMS mission and an advocate for our members. Given this combination of board awareness, demonstrated ability, and passion for providing health and fitness to adults through swimming, I am pleased to recommend Laura to be an At-Large Delegate.

I consent to this letter being published.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Miller