

Teddy Decker - Southwest Zone Candidate for the At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Teddy Decker 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 her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Laura Winslow* and received letters of recommendation from *Jeanne Ensign* and *Robert Wilson* 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 2 or more HOD Meeting in the past five years? Yes No

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

2013, Sept 11-15 Anaheim, CA

2014 Sept 17-21 Jacksonville, FL

2015 Sept 30-Oct 4 Kansas City, MO

2016 Sept 21-25 Atlanta, GA

2017 Sept 13-17 Dallas, TX

Section Three: Questions

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

I started swimming competitively when I was 12 years old. Swimming has given me so much throughout my lifetime (including my husband!) and I am excited to be able to give something back to swimming and the swimming community. In addition to being a competitive swimmer, I

have also coached, and I am an active meet official for both USA and USMS swimming. I believe giving back to the community and volunteering is important in life and it gives me great joy to be able to combine this important duty with something I also enjoy a great deal.

I believe I would be a good candidate partly because of my passion for swimming, but also because I have an extensive background in business and in professional situations. I have been a CPA for 20 years and have had my own business for 8 years. During my tenure as a CPA I have been a business consultant for small businesses as well as auditing and consulting for many not-for-profit organizations. I believe this group of skills and experience will be a benefit to USMS as well as helping me to continue to grow and learn.

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 feel the current most important issue facing USMS is attracting new younger members and providing programming that will enhance the member's experience and make life-long members. I think that continuing to develop the college club initiative and get new college age swimmers involved in USMS is a key to the continuing success of USMS. Also, continuously taking the pulse of the current members is important to determine what attracted them to USMS in the first place and why they have continued their membership.

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:

- 2015 - Audit Committee Member; Elyce Dilworth, Chair
- 2016 - Audit Committee Member; Elyce Dilworth, Chair
- 2017 - Audit Committee Vice Chair; Elyce Dilworth, Chair
- 2018 - Audit Committee Vice Chair; Elyce Dilworth, Chair
- 2018 - Finance Committee Member; Jeanne Ensign, Chair.
- 2017 - Planning Committee Member for the 2nd Leadership Conference

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

In addition to being active at the national level for the past five years, I have also been the Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Officials Chair for the New Mexico LMSC and have been working to increase membership and offer a good value to our local members by setting up stroke clinics, supporting swim meets, and also supporting other swimming related activities within New Mexico. It has been my goal to "get the word out" to our local membership about what USMS is all about and what the NM LMSC can do to help support our local swimmers and our local swimming community.

In running my own business for the last eight years, I have developed a good skill set to help me work with lots of different personalities and to be efficient and organized, as well as being highly self-motivated and efficient. I strive to do be the best I can be in both my personal and private life and to continually grow and learn from new and challenging experiences.

I have been a CPA for 20 years. My early experience in public accounting was almost entirely in auditing not-for-profit organizations. I currently have several not-for-profit clients and thoroughly enjoy supporting this sector of the business world.

Please list any other information you would like included.

When I was first asked to be a member of the New Mexico LMSC, I had been a member of USMS for about 5 years and I had no idea what USMS did at a national level or the amount of support and resources that were available. My LMSC had not been compliant with the minimum LMSC standards for quite a while and there was not much information disseminated by the LMSC. After I got involved at the LMSC board level, I made it part of my mission to make sure that all of our LMSC members were at least given the opportunity to learn what happens at the board level and what support is available to them.

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

It would be my honor to be chosen as the SW Zone At-Large Director and to take my involvement with USMS to the next level by serving on the board. I am excited to be involved in such a wonderful organization and to have the opportunity to continue to give back in every way I can



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

From: Laura Winslow, AZ LMSC

Date: April 29, 2018

Subject Line: Nomination of At-large Director Candidate from the Southwest Zone

To: The Elections Committee

I am the current At-large Director from the Southwest Zone. I would like to nominate Teddy Decker for the position of At-large Director from the Southwest Zone.

Sincerely,

Laura Winslow
AZ LMSC
At-large Director from the Southwest Zone



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

Date: April 29, 2018

To: The Elections Committee

Subject: Letter of Recommendation

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Teddy Decker as At-Large Delegate for the Southwest Zone. Teddy will bring to the Board her knowledge of USMS at the LMSC, Zone and national levels.

I have served with Teddy, a CPA in public accounting, on both Audit and Finance Committees. She is inquisitive, thoughtful and enthusiastic.

Teddy's experience and skills coupled with her passion for swimming and her dedication to our organization make her an ideal candidate for this position.

It is my pleasure to recommend Teddy as the next At-Large Delegate for the Southwest Zone.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeanne Ensign CPA
USMS Finance Committee Chair
MT LMSC Chair

From: Robert Wilson MD, Chairman NM LMSC

March 9, 2018

Letter of Recommendation for **Teddy Decker** as Southwest Zone At-Large Director

To: The Elections Committee

It is my pleasure and honor to provide my highest possible recommendation for Teddy Decker as a candidate for this position. First and foremost, Teddy loves swimming and everything USMS stands for and provides to its members. Teddy provided strong leadership for Masters' Swimming in New Mexico as our Chairman of the NM LMSC and New Mexico Masters Swimming. I have followed her in that role, and I see first-hand just how effective she was in increasing our enrollment and making USMS into a member responsive advocate in our state.

Teddy maintains a large accounting practice in Albuquerque, and her management skills will be as valuable to her job as SW Zone At-Large Director as they were to her NMMS Chairmanship. Teddy maintains a good-natured and effective engagement in her professional and USMS Administrative activities, and I can think of no one I would recommend higher for this position.

Sincerely,

Robert Wilson,

Chairman, NM LMSC (NMMS)