

Michael Heather - Southwest Zone Candidate for the At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Michael Heather 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 *Robin Smith* and received a letter of recommendation from *Frank Thompson* 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:

All since 1986

Section Three: Questions

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

Have been a board member for 23 years prior, an officer for 8 years, desire to serve again.

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?

One major issue, membership. The board needs to take the lead on a strategy to gain membership and stop raising dues. National office needs to double down on sponsors, but cannot attract really bid one until USMS has over 100k members. This has been known for more than 10 years.

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:

Too many to list here. Rules, Legislation, Long Distance, Planning, I was the Convention committee chair or co-chair for 16 years. Also Marketing, and ad hoc member in several others including Coaches, Fitness, Sports science and Medicine, Championship, Finance and Registration.

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

I have served on several task forces and Ad Hoc committees, including the TF that created our current governance system. I was chair of the dues TF in 2011.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Serving on the BoD is not a stepping stone for me, it is a job to be taken seriously and with gravity.

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

This guy wants to stop raising dues and raise membership to 100,000.



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

From: Robin Smith, Southern Pacific LMSC Open Water Chair

Date: April 28, 2018

Subject Line: Nomination and Recommendation for Southwest Zone Director

To: The Elections Committee

I hereby nominate and endorse Michael Heather for the position of Southwest Zone Director.

I have known Michael as a teammate, swimmer, and fellow Southern Pacific LMSC Committee member for the past 10 years.

Michael has contributed to the growth of Masters Swimming in Southern California through his participation and leadership with Southern Pacific Masters Swimming and US Masters Swimming for over 30 years. He has contributed at most all leadership areas of US Masters Swimming and works diligently to create a positive result for all involved. He truly shows a lifelong passion for swimming by going above and beyond in his commitment to USMS.

In conclusion, Michael's strengths and enthusiasm combined with his tireless efforts working at both the local and national levels make him a great candidate for Southwest Zone Director.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Smith
Southern Pacific LMSC Open Water Chair
OpenWater@SPMasterSwim.org

Letter of Recommendation

From: Frank Thompson, VP community Services, USMS

29 April 2018

To: The elections committees

I am happy and honored to recommend and endorse the nomination of Michael Heather for the position of at large Director form the Southwest Zone. I have known Michael since 1988 and have found his service to USMS to be without equal and without blemish. Over the years he has proven to be a loyal and determined board member, officer, national committee chair (and member) and task force chair (and member). He is always working and striving to improve USMS within its boundaries and policies. I believe he will be an excellent director and will add a great deal of institutional knowledge as well as perspective to the growth process.

Sincerely, 

Frank Thompson, USMS VP for Community Services