

Bruce Hopson - Breadbasket Zone Candidate for the At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Bruce Hopson 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 *Anthony Thompson* and received a letter of recommendation from *Jim Goodwin* 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:

I first USMS National HOD Meeting I attended was 2001 in Louisville, KY. I have been to every meeting since then.

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in becoming a Director-at-Large on the Board of Governors because I have been committed to public service for the last twenty years as a practicing attorney. I believe that my almost 45 years of swimming (20 of which as a Master) along with 15 years of bar service on the local, state and national level would make me a good candidate. In addition to my swimming, my background as both a lawyer and a bar leader would allow me to contribute my critical thinking and organizational skills to USMS.

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 believe the major issues presently facing USMS will be how to sustain itself and maintain its relevancy in era in which people are becoming more and more reluctant to join organizations. In a similar fashion, USMS will need to figure out how it can be competitive or collaborate with other existing organizations such as USA Triathlon and to stay ahead of organizations not currently around. I see that the inroads we have made with the College Club Swimming program as an outstanding example of such a collaboration and one which we have made great improvement. Finally, I see there will still be a continued focus on how to balance the interests of the fitness swimmer against those of the competitive swimmer.

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:

I served on the USMS **BOD** as the Director at-large from the Breadbasket Zone under the leadership of Nadine Day (2012-2015) and Patty Miller (2015-2016). Additionally, from 2003-2015, I served on the **Long Distance Committee** under the leadership of Peter Crumbine, Marcia Cleveland, Heather Hagadorn, and then Donn Livoni. I have previously been on the legal advisors ad hoc committee under Patti Miller, and the records and tabulations committee under Ed Tsuzuki. I also have served on the **Governance Committee** from 2014 to 2017, under Leianne Crittenden, and the **Legislation Committee** under Richard Garza (2017-present). Finally, I have served on the **Elections Committee** from 2012-2014, 2015-2016, 2017-2018 (the breaks occurring when I have run for elective office) under Sheryl Gettelfinger.

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

I served as president of my club, St. Louis Area Masters Swimming from 2000-2006, and chair of the Ozark LMSC from 2004-2006. I am currently the vice-chair of Ozark LMSC. Additionally, I was co-president of IGLA from 2005-2006. In the non-swimming world, I served from 2011-2012 as president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, which is a 6,000-member voluntary bar.

Please list any other information you would like included.

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

I believe I would make a good Director-at-Large because I previously served in this position (2012-2016), and I believe I still have more to contribute to the BOD. I have a long background in swimming as an age group swimmer, an NCAA Division I swimmer and a master swimmer. As an attorney, I would be able to provide needed critical thinking to board discussions. Finally, I have had 15 years of bar leadership experience on the local, state and the American Bar Association.

30-May-2018

To the ad hoc Election Committee:

I nominate Bruce Hopson of Ozark LMSC for the USMS Breadbasket Director At-Large.

Bruce has been active at the USMS national level attending every USAS Convention since 2001. He has previously served in this position from 2012-2106. He currently serves on the Legislation Committee, and has served on USMS Long Distance Committees for 10 years under four different committee chairs, as well as the Governance Committee, the *ad hoc* Elections Committee and the *ad hoc* legal counsel committee to support the USMS Legal Counsel. He has been an active leader on the local level serving as the St Louis Area Masters Club and chair of the Ozark LMSC.

In his professional life, he is an active member of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St Louis, including serving as the president in 2011-2012.

He has been an active member and leader in IGLA, an associate member organization to USMS, including serving as the international co-president in 2005-2006.

As an attorney, he has strong skills in critical thinking, strategic oversight and financial acumen which are all important skills needed by members of the USMS Board. His experience with long distance and open water will provide additional support the USMS Board as a target area for growing USMS.

I strongly support Bruce Hopson as a candidate for USMS Breadbasket Director At-Large.

Submitted Respectfully,

Anthony Thompson, Missouri Valley Masters Swimming

From: Jim Goodwin

Date: May 29, 2018

To the ad hoc Election Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Bruce Hopson of Ozark LMSC in support of his seeking the USMS Breadbasket Director At-Large position. I have known Bruce for over 11 years, and feel confident he would be good for this position.

He has a strong history of service, not only to swimming, but to the wider community as well. As a lifelong swimming advocate, Bruce's passion for the sport is contagious, as he has consistently drawn people back to the sport – as well as those new to swimming. He has been an active member and leader in IGLA, an associate member organization to USMS, highlighted by his term as Co-President in 2005/6. He has also been actively involved with the Saint Louis Area Masters (SLAM) serving in a variety of roles. He brings a wealth of experience and enthusiasm to the position, and I highly recommend Bruce for the USMS Breadbasket Director at Large position.

Coming from a long line of lawyers, Bruce is adept at critical assessment, thinking and advocating for the best of his clients, and member groups. Just this past year alone, he has received numerous awards citing his leadership skills.

Outside of swimming, he is very active in both the American Bar Association (ABA) as well as the local bar, the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis (BAMSL).

Sincerely,

Jim Goodwin

You may publish this letter.