



**U.S. MASTERS
SWIMMING**

September 24, 2015

New Chapter to Begin for USMS in 2016

Dear U.S. Masters Swimming House of Delegates,

This week Executive Director Rob Butcher shared with the Board of Directors and National Office staff that he will be stepping down December 31, 2015. On January 1, 2016, Rob will become the President and CEO of Swim Across America. The SAA mission is to raise money for cancer research, prevention, and treatment through swimming-related events.

I was a member of the search task force that interviewed and recommended we hire Rob in 2008. At the time, we were seeking an executive director who could transform USMS from a primarily volunteer-operated governing body to a professionally managed organization.

Since 2008, Rob has guided the development of our National Office with a steady vision. Milestone accomplishments include rebranding USMS with an inclusive identity, the development of *SWIMMER* magazine and usms.org into the trusted resources for Masters swimmers, partnerships with Fortune 500 brands Marriott and Nationwide, development of the USMS Masters Coach Certification Program so Masters coaches can provide a better swimming experience for our members, establishment of the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation to provide learn-to-swim opportunities for adults, and National Office educational programs and services for our members, LMSCs, and volunteers.

In January 2016, the National Office is migrating to a larger location in Sarasota. This move and the hiring of a new executive director signify a new chapter for USMS. As we continue to work with the incredible employees that Rob brought onto the National Office staff, I'm excited about the opportunities to make our existing programs and services even better and to create new ones as we encourage adults to swim.

We're in the process of appointing a search task force and establishing the search process. The task force will work closely with Rob to find a successor who will take us into our next chapter. Our hope is to have a new executive director on board before December 31.

USMS has been very fortunate to have Rob Butcher as our executive director. We truly appreciate all of his many contributions and we have benefited from his outstanding leadership. Swim Across America is a great organization and has many ties to U.S. Masters Swimming. I would like to wish Rob and Swim Across America a very successful future.

Sincerely,

Nadine Day
President, U.S. Masters Swimming