

Greta van Meeteren - Dixie Zone Candidate for the At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Greta van Meeteren 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 *Meegan Wilson* and received letters of recommendation from *Meegan Wilson* and *Bob Bruce* 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 more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No N/A

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

2007 Anaheim, 2008 Atlanta, 2009 Chicago, 2010 Dallas, 2011 Jacksonville, 2012 Greensboro, 2013 Anaheim, 2014 Jacksonville, 2015 Kansas City

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 this position, because I believe I would be a good representative for the Dixie Zone. I have experience working for our local LMSC as well as on national committees. I am committed to swimming as part of a healthy lifestyle.

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?

Member retention is certainly on the forefront of the issues USMS faces in my opinion. Several things can be done to address these issues, communication being a very important tool. Members need to hear about all that is happening within USMS to make their membership valuable to them. Among things that are important to swimmers are availability of pool time and coaches, finding swim meets and open water swims. Making sure that that information is

available and up to date is crucial. This is why – besides the electronic newsletter - having readily available and up-to-date websites for each LMSC is a must.

I also strongly believe that swimmers always need a lot of support from our coaches and especially during the transition from fitness swimmer to competitive swimmer. One of the things that can be done is having special events for beginning competitors and/or one day meets geared towards their needs.

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:

2007 - 2014 Fitness Education Committee, Marcia Anziano Chair. I contributed 37 articles to USMS.org about fitness swimmers.

2010 – Today: Long Distance Committee, Heather Hagadorn and Donn Livoni Chairs.

I am the lead for the P.A.R.A. subcommittee (Patches, All Stars, Records and All Americans), this year liaison for the 3,000 / 6,000 yard ePostal National Championship and I collate the women's Long Distance All American results. I work on updating the ePostal manual, which is an ongoing process.

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

I am the co-founder of our local workout group: the Twin Rivers YMCA Masters in New Bern. This group started in December of 2003 with 6 members and has grown into a team of 26 members. I do all of the administrative work for the group, make sure the members are made aware of swim meets and open water events in the area and I also encourage them to participate swim meets and in the ePostal Championships.

I was the Secretary of the LMSC for NC from 2006 – 2009, Chair of the LMSC for NC from 2009 – 2012. I also started the electronic newsletter for our LMSC in 2010 and produced monthly editions for 4 years. During my tenure as chair I did a major re-write of the USMS bylaws.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Recipient of the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award in 2014. I am a retired English teacher, speak Dutch, English, German and a bit of French. I am computer literate.

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

Greta van Meeteren, member of the LMSC for NC, running for the delegate-at-large position for the Dixie Zone.

From: Meegan Wilson
May 7, 2016

Letter of Nomination for At-Large Director, Dixie Zone

To: The Elections Committee

Dear Cheryl Gettelfinger,

It is my pleasure to nominate Greta van Meeteren for At-Large Director representing the Dixie Zone. Greta is and has been extremely active in United States Masters Swimming at the local level, the LMSC level, and the national level.

Locally, she co-founded the Twin Rivers YMCA Masters team in New Bern, NC 12 years ago and is actively involved with promoting the team by encouraging teammates, helping with registrations and writing newsletter articles.

She has served as newsletter editor, secretary and chairman for the North Carolina LMSC, and is currently keeping track of, and reporting on, long distance results. She has written many fitness, open water, and long distance newsletter articles for *Across the Lanes*, the North Carolina LMSC newsletter.

Nationally she has attended USAS Conventions since 2007. She has been a member of the USMS Fitness Committee, authoring 37 GTD (Go The Distance) stories. As a member of the USMS Long Distance Committee she was liaison for the 5K-10K ePostal Championships and has compiled Long Distance All-American results.

For her volunteer commitments, Greta received the U.S. Masters Swimming Dorothy Donnelly Service Award in 2014. She also has Top Ten honors in the pool and All-American and All-Stars honors in Long Distance swimming.

Her administrative skills and knowledge of Masters Swimming from all angles will be a benefit to the U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors. I highly recommend Greta van Meeteren for the At-Large Director, Dixie Zone position.

Sincerely,



Meegan Wilson
USMS member

May 16, 2016

Dear Sir or Madam:

This letter supports Greta Van Meeteren's nomination for the USMS Board of Directors as an At Large Delegate from the Dixie Zone. I believe that Greta is an outstanding candidate for such a position.

I have known and worked with Greta on the USMS Long Distance Committee for six years, from 2010 to the present, working together on general committee business and on several subcommittees. In all cases, I have found Greta to possess that rarest of qualities, the ability to keep the big picture in mind while she working on details.

For the last four USMS "rules/legislation" cycles, I have lead the Subcommittee on Rules & Legislation, jointly run by the Long Distance and the Open Water Committees. Greta has always been an important contributor to this crucial project, always weighing the most challenging decisions thoughtfully and carefully while never letting us get away with a comma splice, misplaced modifier, or misspelling. She has reviewed and helped to craft dozens of rules, and we have a clearer and more streamlined part three of our rulebook as a result. She sees the forest and the trees.

Greta has also played a significant role in the Postal Subcommittee of the Long Distance Committee, having played the major role in the reorganization and ongoing upgrading of the Postal Guide to Operations and in the implementing of its policies. She is largely responsible for the continued growth and viability of this popular USMS program. Again, she sees the forest and the trees.

Best of all, Greta always seems to keep a level head and a cheerful disposition even when confronting big challenges and difficult people. She has excellent personal and mediating skills, but shows stiff insistence for things in which she believes strongly.

Please consider Greta Van Meeteren to be an outstanding candidate for this Board of Directors position. If you have other questions or need additional information, please contact me.

Very truly yours,



Bob Bruce
Chair, USMS Open Water Committee