

Committee Name: Coaches Committee: 2025 May Meeting

Committee Chair: Molly Hoover

Vice Chair: Aaron Schneider

Minutes recorded by: Jacky Merianos

Meeting date/time: May 13th, 8PM EST

Roll Call

Number of committee members present: 10 **Absent:** 2 **# of other delegates present:** 0

Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Molly Hoover (Chair), Kenny Brisbin (VPCS), Bill Brenner (Ex-Officio), Blake Woodrow, Chris McPherson, Gretch Sanders, Jacky Merianos, Laurie Hug, Mike Hamm, Rob Duguay

Not present: Aaron Schneider (Vice Chair), Trey Taylor

Others present:

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:04pm Eastern Standard Time.

1. Welcome Coaches!
2. Sub Committee Reports and Updates

NCC/Relay (Bil)

We met with the Relay team last week. The committee has started selecting presenters for each presentation topic. This week, the LMSC Development Committee is meeting with Dawson to review and approve the schedule and session details. We will share the finalized schedule and topics at our next committee meeting.

Web Workouts (Gretch)

Nothing new to report. A few of our coaches have submitted a few questions, all of which have been addressed. Workouts continue to be posted as scheduled.

Awards (Aaron):

Nothing new to report.

Education (Mike/Bill)

Molly Hoover (Illinois) will be hosting the final Coach Certification weekend of the Spring season at the end of the month (Level 2, Level 3, and ALTS). We'll be taking a break over the summer and will resume certification courses in the Fall.

Refer to the [Coach Certification Schedule](#) for a complete list of classes happening in 2025.

Level 4 Applications (Laurie)

Mike, Chris, and Laurie have reviewed and made cosmetic updates to the Level 4 Coaches Application. This year's application will be finalized tomorrow. Applications will open on May 15th and close on July 15th.

The committee plans to conduct a more comprehensive revision for next year's application (2026). Several items have been flagged for further review/edit.

LMSC Communication (Blake)

Everything is going well on Blake's end! Emails have been sent out to our Coaches Chairs monthly. No responses or questions have come in.

Committee: provided kudos to Blake for his great emails!

Kenny: The Southern Pacific Coaches Chair has been referencing these emails at our LMSC Meetings.

Mentoring (Rob/Bill)

Working on an article for *Swimmer Magazine* with tips and guidance for new USMS coaches. It will include a section on the USMS mentoring program.

Jacky: Suggests submitting a blurb to *Streamlines*. While it doesn't need to be as detailed, we should still promote the mentoring program there as well.

On Deck Coaching (Chris)

On deck coaching at Spring Nationals was a success! We had a great turnout of coaches. Every coaching slot was filled for all five days, with a total of 29 volunteer coaches.

Meet warm-ups ran smoothly without any major issues. The only drawback was the mellow yellow On-Deck coaching shirts—we're missing our signature neon yellow.

Chris is working on the Summer Nationals Sign-Up Genius and will submit it to the national office soon for posting. We're requesting a larger advertisement this time around for better visibility.

REQUEST FOR LEVEL 4 COMMITTEE: Can we make On Deck coaching a new credential for on the Level 4 Application?

Publications (Laurie)

Nothing new to report. Laurie will keep an eye out for Rob's article!

Peer to Peer (Jacky and Blake)

Nationals Social (Jacky): Social was a success! We had 25-30 coaches attend in total. Only drawback: the bar didn't start offering food until 5PM, and we arrived hungry at 4PM. Will keep this in mind when we plan future socials.

The request has been made to host a Coach Social at Summer Nationals --Jacky will begin working on that. Dawson noted that the National Office may be able to provide a stipend for future socials -- Jacky will follow up on that.

Discord (Blake): The majority of the committee is up on Discord. Jacky and Blake have made a formal request that all committee members join Discord this month and actively use the

platform for communication. Feedback on the experience will be collected at our next committee meeting.

Worlds (Jacky and Rob)

Rob and Jacky had a chance to meet with Chad at Nationals. He is well-prepared and eager to connect with swimmers as he begins to rally the 2025 USMS Worlds team. There are a few items he is in need of National Office assistance with:

- USMS International Events page needs to be updated to include 2025 World Aquatics Masters Championship meet information (it currently reflects info for the 2024 PanAms meet)
- We would like a USMS Worlds announcement in Streamlines!
- We need to the Worlds SwimOutlet store live by Memorial Day, as there is a 6-8 week turnaround on custom items.

The requests for assistance have been made – we are still waiting for a response from the National Office. Jacky and Rob have asked Committee leadership to help with these requests.

World Aquatics is unable to provide us with a USMS roster, so we have created a survey to distribute directly to our membership. We will hopefully get this survey into Streamlines and will have Blake blast this out to Coaches Chairs.

3. Liaisons

D&I (Kenny)

Nothing new to report. D&I meeting are every other month

ALTS (Mike)

There are no new updates, but here are some impressive stats: USMS currently has \$140,000 allocated for 2026 ALTS grants. Last year (2025), 1,342 participants benefited from ALTS programming

LMSC Development (Jacky)

2025 - In lieu of Webinars, the LMSC Development Committee has been hosting Volunteer Social Hours. These quarterly gatherings provide volunteers with an opportunity to connect, strengthen camaraderie, and stay informed about all that is happening in USMS. The final call in our Spring Social Hour series is scheduled for this Sunday, May 18th – Jacky invites you all to join her 😊 [Volunteer Social Hours | U.S. Masters Swimming](#)

Please remind your Chairs, Treasurers and Sanctions Chairs that their LMSC Standards Surveys are due no later than May 31st! All surveys went out in an email via the National Office on May 1st. Any questions, reach out to Jacky.

Long Distance (Gretch)

Gretch has reached out to the committee, but has not received a response. Hoping to have an update for our next meeting.

4. Old Business

Award Winner Bios - [Awards Bios Assignments](#)

Kudos to Chris and Rob for getting their bios done! Let's keep the momentum going and try to have more finished by our next meeting

5. New Business

5. This meeting was adjourned at 9:07PM Eastern Standard Time