

Committee Name: Coaches Committee: 2026 July Meeting
Committee Chair: Molly Hoover **Vice Chair:** Aaron Schneider
Minutes recorded by: Jacky Merianos **Meeting date/time:** July 14th, 8PM EST

Roll Call

Number of committee members present: 11 **Absent:** 5 **# of other delegates present:** 0

Committee members present: Molly Hoover (Chair), Kenny Brisbin (Executive Committee), Barbara Ingold, Doug Garcia, Gretchen Sanders, Jacky Merianos, Marcia Benjamin, Michael Hamm, Robert Duguay, Todd Samland, Wynne Kirchner

Not présent: Aaron Schneider (Vice Chair), Karyn Austin, Angie Brennan, James Miller, Laurie Hug

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:03pm Eastern Standard Time.

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

Web Workouts (Gretch)

Smooth sailing at the moment. Nothing new to report at this time.

Update from Kenny: National office is working on adding website features so we can track popular workouts (likes, rankings, comments, favorites, etc.)

NCC/Relay (Aaron)

Speakers and sessions for NCC have all been confirmed. 2008/2012 Olympian Cullen Jones and University of Florida Associate Head Coach Whitney Hite will be presenting at our pool session on Sunday. There will be three pool sessions total:

There will be an optional group workout to follow the clinic

Request from Kenny: Would any members of the committee be interested in leading a "How to Run a Swim Clinic" workshop during Relay on Friday? We're looking for three coaches to serve as presenters.

Mike Hamm, Barbra Ingold and Doug Garcia all agreed to host. Kenny to connect the group so they may plan their session

Awards (Laurie)

The awards submission window has officially closed. The sub-committee is now reviewing nominations and selecting this year's Kerry O'Brien Award recipients and Coach of the Year, both of which will be presented at NCC.

Education (Mike)

No update to report this month. Still waiting to receive information from the National Office on what Coach Education will look like moving forward.

Level 4 (Laurie)

Nothing new to report this month.

LMSC Communication (Marcia)

Email communication went out to all Coaches Chairs this month. No questions or concerns came in -- we assuming everything was received clearly.

Mentoring (Todd)

Nothing new to report this month - mentoring is still a work in progress.

On Deck Coaching (Rob)

We are in need of On-Deck coaches for Summer Nationals in Sacramento. If you know of a coach planning to attend, please share the sign-up with them.

Recommendation: Ask the National Office to include a blurb about On Deck Coaching in the emails that go out to meet participants.

Rob has been working with the coaches in Sacramento to secure a spot for the Coaches Social. The plan is to hold it at The Hub on either Friday or Saturday. More information coming soon!

Publications (Doug)

Nothing to report this month.

Peer to Peer (Jacky & Doug)

Our June Open Webinar was a great success! We had 53 masters join live, with more than 100 people registered. A VERY big thank-you to Coach Marcia Cleveland for delivering such an engaging and informative session. Her presentation was very well received and we continue to hear strong, positive feedback from members across the country. The Open Water Committee enjoyed it as well and has asked to post the recording on Open Water Central.

Jacky and Doug have discussed expanding our webinar program to create more coaches-only opportunities. We want to continue offering coach-led webinars for all USMS members, while also adding sessions designed specifically for our registered USMS coaches. The committee was supportive of this direction, and a conversation was had on ways to keep coaches engaged after NCC through webinars and virtual gatherings.

Jacky & Doug to meet this summer to debrief further and come up with an outline for the fall/winter.

Worlds (Jacky)

Nothing new to report this month.

4. Liaisons

D&I (Kenny)

Nothing new to report this month. The committee is focusing on initiatives aimed at fitness swimmers, who make up the majority of our membership.

ALTS (Mike)

Nothing new to report.

LMSC Development (Aaron)

Relay Updates were given when we discussed NCC.

Long Distance

Nothing new to report this month.

5. Other Business -**The Coaches Committee is now on Slack**

Moving forward, Molly will be sharing all committee updates on our committee slack channel.

Coaches Committee Annual Meeting: August 11th

Be prepared to give a brief summary of your role and any updates for the membership.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:49PM Eastern Standard Time