

2020 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Virtual

Committee Name:	History and Archives	Session #:	1 via Zoom Meeting
Committee Chair:	Frank “Skip” Thompson	Co-Vice Chairs:	Bob Anderson & Barbara Dunbar
Minutes recorded by:	Barbara Dunbar	Date/time of meeting:	9/1/2020, 8:00-9:00 pm EDT

Number of committee members present: 15	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 17
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Frank “Skip” Thompson, Chair; Bob Anderson, co-Vice Chair; Barbara Dunbar co-Vice Chair; Maryanne Barkley, Ashley Braniecki, Rich Burns, Kirk Clear, Anna Lea Matysek, Molly Meyer, Walt Reid, Jayne Saint-Amour, Meegan Wilson		
Ex Officio: Ed Coates, VPLO; Mary Beth Windrath, National Swims Coordinator, Daniel Paulling, National Office		
Committee Members Absent: Gail Roper, Ann Svenson		
Others Present: Ben Wyckoff – Connecticut, CJ Rushman – Kentucky, Dee Shedlow – Lake Erie, Donita Flecker – Pacific, Jayne Moore – PNA, Katherine Olson – South Dakota, Laurie Hug – Delaware Valley, Marilyn Fink – San Diego Imperial, Nick Decker – New Mexico, Rob Copeland – Georgia, Robert Heath – Inland Northwest, Sally Dillion – PNA, Sally Guthrie – Pacific, Sandi Rousseau – Oregon, Sandy Thatcher – North Texas, Ted Haartz – Arizona,		

Minutes

The Chair called the meeting to order at 8:03 pm EDT on Thursday, September 1, 2020, welcomed attendees and new delegates, and gave a brief history of the beginnings of the History and Archives (H&A) Committee. The chair called roll and introduced committee members giving highlights of their volunteer and swimming accomplishments.

The chair explained that the H&A committee is subdivided into two subcommittees headed by each of the two co-vice chairs and briefly summarized three major H&A Projects. Locating and scanning 128 results from 1974 – 1997 Open Water and Long Distance National Championships was completed this year. The results will be posted onto the USMS website by the National Office. Barbara Dunbar, Meegan Wilson, and others were thanked for many years of work on this project. The project to upload old Relay Top Ten data into the on-line database for 1972-1987 is ongoing with a completion goal of next year and will be a top priority. A new Living History project, guided by Bob Anderson and Rich Burns, was outlined. The initial focus is to capture experiences of swimmers during the COVID pandemic. Further explanations of projects were turned over to the vice chairs, beginning with Barbara who discussed ongoing, long-term H&A projects and Bob Anderson who discussed the Living History project.

- Open Water and Long Distance National Championship Results Project:** The results from 128 OW/LD AAU Masters and USMS Open Water and Long Distance National Championships from 1974-1997 are missing from the USMS website. Of these, 119 complete and 3 partial results have been located, scanned, and submitted for upload; the remaining 16 results were not found, however an event information page was prepared and submitted for upload. The list of which OW/LD National Championship results are incomplete or fully missing will be updated and re-uploaded to the USMS website.
- Relay Top 10 On-line Posting Project:** Old short course yards (SCY), long course meters (LCM), and short course meters (SCM) Relay Top 10 listings from 1972 – 1987, which are missing from the online Top 10 database, are being carefully transcribed from paper copies into digital files. Following transcription, missing first names are verified and added. Files are proofed for accuracy. Permanent swimmer IDs are added by Walt Reid and Mary Beth Windrath when possible. File data is upload into the USMS Top 10 Relay database by Mary Beth. The following courses and years are in process or remain to be completed: 15 SCY from 1973-1987; 16 LCM from 1972-1987; and 2 SCM from 1986-1987. Transcriptions for 1980, 1985, 1986, and 1987 SCY Relay Top 10s are complete. SCY Relay Top 10s from 1985, 1986, & 1987 need first names added. Transcription for 1984, 1985, 1986, and 1987 LCM Relay Top 10s are complete. First names need to be added for 1984 and 1985 LCM Relay top 10s. The Relay Top 10s for 1986 and 1987 are complete and ready for upload. The first official year for SCM Top 10s was in 1986. Note that the unofficial, incomplete Top 10 for 1985 cannot be added to the Top 10 database.
- USMS National Record Chronology Project:** Missing National Record dates continue to be researched, located, and sent to Walt Reid for addition to the online chronological listing of USMS National Records.
- Unidentified Top 10 Swimmers Project:** Unidentified swimmers without permanent IDs in pre-1993 USMS Individual Top 10 lists are being identified and assigned legacy IDs. Dates of birth, LMSC designation, and club affiliations are added if discovered. At the end of 2019, 1191 names needed identification. Since the beginning of the year, 58 names have been identified, leaving 1133 swimmer to be identified. Once IDs are assigned and linked to the Top 10 list, then the name becomes searchable. Recent work has been done mostly by Paul Windrath.
- USMS History Project:** Meegan and Barbara are scanning old annual meeting minutes and other documents and have located old Rule Book pdfs for eventual posting onto the USMS website. Anna Lea Matysek is adding volunteer positions

such as USMS committee and BOD membership (found in old Rule Books) to individual swimmer profile pages. Old Rule Books were shared with the Rules committee. Ed Coates commented that scanning Rule Books might not be a good use of committee time, however Anna Lea explained that existing digital copies were being located.

6. **Living History Project:** Rich Burns screen shared an overview of the Living History project and noted that the project is for building a Masters swimming community and capturing the legacy of Masters swimming. Bob Anderson followed up with a definition of Living History and further explanations. Skip has contacted some LMSCs about the project. The overview included:
 - a. Purpose – building community, archive Masters history as it happens, promote what we do, celebrate members, telling our stories.
 - b. Audiences - local (memories, nostalgia, community); national (preserving history); media (outreach, awareness, recruiting).
 - c. Organizing – champions and their roles, organizing the process
 - d. Content - creating stories, deciding what to preserve, topics/categories, narratives, visuals, photos, videos.
 - e. Process – best practices for LMSC consideration
 - f. Technology – archiving, access, retrieval.

LMSCs and others cannot focus on competitions for living histories since events are not taking place due to the COVID pandemic. There was a discussion as to the content of an engaging living history video or story such as creating a history of what USMS members are doing or how they are coping during this trying time. Bob suggested that LMSCs collect photos, videos, and articles which might eventually be stored on the USMS website. Initially, it would be necessary for LMSCs or individuals to store the files or to use accounts/applications such as Flickr. The group working on this project will also check how other similar organizations are capturing living history.

7. Bob Anderson congratulated Skip Thompson for receiving the Capt. Ransom J. Arthur, M.D. award this year as did others on the zoom call. VPLO Ed Coates was thanked for acting as moderator for the meeting.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. **Relay Top 10 On-line Posting Project**
2. **Living History Project**
3. **USMS National Record Chronology Project**
4. **Unidentified Top 10 Swimmers Project**
5. **USMS History Project**
6. **Open Water and Long Distance National Championship Results Project**
7. **Update the Olympians in USMS list**
8. **Identification of Deceased Members and Dates of Death**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 pm EDT.
