

2026 U.S. Masters Swimming – History & Archives Committee

Committee Name:	History & Archives	Session #:	
Committee Chair:	C.J. Rushman	Vice Chair:	n/a
Minutes recorded by:	C.J. Rushman	Date/time of meeting:	August 13 th , 2026 @ 8 pm EDT

Motions Passed:

1. MSA – minutes from conference call on July 14th, 2026.

Number of committee members present - 8	Absent - 1	Number of other delegates present: 8
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Maryanne Barkley (Ozark), Sharon Snyder (Metropolitan), Crystie McGrail (VPLO - Colorado) Stacey Eicks (Gulf), Tim Sinnenberg (Adirondack) & C.J. Rushman (Ohio), Hugh Moore (Potomac Valley) and Daniel Pauling (Ex-Officio - Florida).		
Committee Members Absent: Kysa Crusco (New England)		

Minutes

The meeting for the History and Archives Committee began at 8:00 pm EDT, with CJ Rushman chairing the session and welcoming current and former members. CJ noted that the committee currently has six members on the call and thanked the current committee for their work. CJ requested a motion to approve the July 14th meeting minutes, with Maryanne having already submitted a correction for a misspelled word. **MSA July 14th meeting minutes.**

Olympian List Update Criteria

The committee discussed updating and supporting the Olympian list, reaching a consensus that while Olympians' presence doesn't directly influence personal decisions to join US Masters Swimming, their public profile can help promote the organization. The committee proposed new inclusion criteria requiring Olympians to have been USMS members for at least five years and to have made verified contributions to USMS missions, with the National Office and USMS Historian responsible for keeping the list. The committee also developed a submission form patterned after the awards submission form to allow public requests for additions to the Olympian list, which will be reviewed by the USMS Historian.

USMS Olympian List Proposal Discussion

The committee discussed a proposal for keeping and updating a list of USMS Olympians, with Christy raising concerns about the list's effectiveness in promoting the organization's mission and values. The group debated whether the administrative effort justified the limited impact of the list, with some members questioning its necessity and suggesting alternative recognition methods like the RJA awards process. The discussion highlighted that while the list might have marketing value and provide motivation for current members, its direct influence on recruitment appears limited, leading to questions about whether to continue supporting the list or explore alternative approaches to recognizing Olympians' contributions.

Olympian List Website Maintenance and Discussion

The committee discussed keeping a list of Olympians on the USMS website, with Crystie explaining that the board previously found the rationale for keeping the list insufficient and not compelling enough to meet USMS's mission. Stacey contended that honoring Olympian members supports USMS's mission and values by promoting continued participation and community outreach. The group agreed that while the national office could initially reach out to Olympians to gather information, the historian should ultimately handle keeping and updating the list going forward, with a simple process for finding missing Olympians. C.J. suggested reworking the initial document based on the discussion to propose enhancing the existing Olympian list with more detailed information and stories. This work would be assigned to the USMS historian, a role that has not yet been identified. The committee agreed to revise the document and resubmit it to the board for consideration, with C.J. and Crystie planning to discuss the matter further offline.

USMS History Timeline Project

The team discussed creating a linear timeline of USMS history from the 1970s through the 1980s. Sharon used AI assistance (Claude) with Bob Kolinkowski and plans to reach out to Mike Laux and Jack Geoghegan, while also exploring potential collaboration with professional editors including Marty Munson from Men's Health magazine. The group discussed existing resources like the Swimmers newsletter and earlier 2020 anniversary materials, with Paul Windrath, offering to share links to New England Masters and Oregon newsletters from the late 1970s and early 1980s. The project aims to complement existing historical documentation by gathering other stories and perspectives from different zones and long-time members.

Organizational History Preservation Planning

The committee discussed preserving organizational history and enhancing its presentation, particularly on the website. Sharon suggested speaking with former contributors to capture their insights before they pass away. The committee agreed that a historian should be appointed to lead this effort and discussed creating engaging digital content like TikTok or Instagram stories to attract younger audiences. The next committee meeting was scheduled for September 8th, with action items including revising the Olympian list document and collecting more stories from committee members and past members. The committee will begin the process of identifying potential candidates for the Historian role.

The next conference call for the committee will be September 8th, 2026, at 8 pm EDT.