

## Kenny Brisbin - Candidate for Vice President of Community Services



The Election Committee has deemed that Kenny Brisbin is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated he is planning to attend the USMS National HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Robin Smith* and received a letter of recommendation from *Trey Taylor* in accordance with the USMS 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:* X Yes \_\_\_ No
- I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year:* X Yes \_\_\_ No
- I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office:* X Yes \_\_\_ No
- I have attended 1 or more HOD Meetings in the past five years?* X Yes \_\_\_ No

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

- 2015 Kansas City, MO. Sept 30<sup>th</sup> - Oct 4<sup>th</sup>
- 2016 Atlanta, GA Sept 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>
- 2017 Dallas, TX Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>
- 2018 Jacksonville, FL Sept 25<sup>th</sup> - 30<sup>th</sup>
- 2019 St Louis, MO Sept. 11<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>
- 2020 Virtual Sept 14<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>
- 2021 Virtual Sept 24<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>
- 2022 Denver, Co. Sept 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>

### Section Three: Questions

***Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?***

I'm interested in continuing to drive USMS to be a viable organization. With my wide range of knowledge and contacts, I have a good pulse of what drives Coaches and members. I'm the perfect candidate for this position with my years of experience as a USMS Coach of an LGBTQ+ team, USMS Committee member, Vice Chair, and Chair of the USMS Coaches Committee, Chair of one of the largest LMSCs, and my countless hours of volunteering at the local regional and national level.

***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?***

We need to be able to support our large, self-sufficient LMSCs and maintain focus on the smaller LMSCs as their needs differ. In addition, we need more communication between elected local and national volunteers.

We must also focus and adjust directives based on the younger generations, which we must capture in our organization. I would use my elected position as the Vice Chair over the Coaches Committee and Diversity and Inclusion to ensure what we do has a focus on the above.

***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:***

Coaches Committee Chair 2020 - 2023 - Me

Coaches Committee Vice Chair 2016 - 2019 Bob Jennings

Coaches Committee Member 2013 - 2015 Scott Bay

Championship Committee Member 2012 - 2012 -Jeff Rodin

Championship Committee Member 2010 - 2010 - Jeff Rodin

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

I have been coaching for 20 years and volunteering at the local, regional, and national levels. As a result, I have excellent communication skills, can work well with people, and am a great listener.

***Please list any other information you would like included.***

No response.

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

My name is Kenny Brisbin, and I'm running for the USMS VP of Communications. As the Head Coach of the Long Beach Grunions, Chair of Southern Pacific Masters Swimming, and Chair of the USMS Coaches Committee, I will bring a broad knowledge base from local, regional, and national levels. In addition, as a leader, I have the drive, knowledge, and communication skills that suit this VP role requirement. I am a great listener to all parties and will use that knowledge to help steer and grow this organization. I have a focus on bringing the next generations into this organization as we must adapt and pivot to capture new members.



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SWIMMING**

**From:** Robin Smith

**Date:** April 25, 2023

**Subject:** Nomination and Endorsement of Ken Brisbin for Vice President of Community Services

**To:** The Elections Committee

It is my honor to nominate and endorse Ken (Kenny) Brisbin for the Office of Vice President of Community Services.

I have worked closely with Kenny for over 10 years, both at the USMS National level and locally in our Southern Pacific LMSC. His enthusiasm and willingness to listen helps to bridge differences and allows for effective communication and compromise across a variety of circumstances.

As the Meet Director for our Annual SCM Championship Meet, his attention to detail and excellent organizational skills brings together the best group of volunteers to make this meet a favorite destination for many swimmers from around the country and beyond. And as the USMS Coaches Committee Chair, he has mentored several of our LMSC Coaches Chairs and set up the USMS Mentoring Program for Masters Coaches nationally. Kenny has served Southern Pacific LMSC as Vice Chair and Chair. He has handled many issues in these positions with grace and professionalism.

The wide range of local, national, and international volunteer experiences in Kenny's background will be a great asset to the USMS Board of Directors. I enthusiastically endorse Ken Brisbin for the Office of Vice President of Community Services.

Thank you,

Robin Smith  
Southern Pacific LMSC Vice Chair  
Southern Pacific LMSC Sanctions Chair  
USMS Vice President of Programs



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## **Letter of Recommendation**

Nomination: **Kenny Brisbin**

Recommendation: **Board of Directions – Vice President of Community Services**

From: **Trey Taylor**

Date: **4/24/2023**

Subject Line: Letter of Recommendation

To: The Elections Committee

Esteemed members of the elections committee, it is both an honor and a privilege to nominate Kenny Brisbin for the position of VP of Community Services. Kenny has a long history of volunteer service with USMS. He began his volunteer journey on the Championship committee in 2010 and has worked tirelessly since. Mr. Brisbin has been recognized for his service with a Dot Donnelly Service Award, as well as the Ted Haartz USMS Staff Appreciation Award. In addition to his years on the Championship Committee, Kenny has served on the USMS Coaches Committee since 2016 and was made chair of said committee in 2020. Kenny also currently serves as the USMS liaison to IGLA (international Gay & Lesbian Aquatics) and has helped to host that organizations championship meet on multiple occasions. Ken is currently the Chair of SPMS and has served on his LSC board for many years in various roles. He also still manages to find time to Coach the Long Beach Grunions (an LGBTQ+ focused Masters Team).

In supervising the Coaches, Diversity & Inclusion, and Fitness Education Committees, I can think of no one better suited for the role. As a current Coach himself, current Chair of the Coaches Committee and a lifelong swimmer, Kenny is finely attuned to the needs of Coaches and to what USMS can do to further support Coaches and foster growth of that profession within our organization. He has championed many causes of the Coaches Committee and pressed to maintain services for coaches throughout his time on the committee. Kenny was instrumental in getting the long delayed 2022 National Coaches Clinic to finally come to fruition, he has supported On Deck Coaches at multiple National Championships and has represented the Coaches Committees interest in Annual Meetings and at Relay. Ken's role in IGLA, his LGBTQ+ focused team and his tireless advocacy for swimmers of all Races, Backgrounds, and Lifestyles makes him uniquely suited to supervise the D&I committee. Mr. Brisbin has championed swimming and access to swimming for everyone. He is an advocate for sport and for the broadest participation possible within it. He will strive daily to make sure that USMS serves it's unique and diverse membership in a way that no other organization can. For Fitness, Ken will assist in promoting the Fitness Series (a main goal of the Fitness Education Committee) through his coaching connections and his supervision of the Coaches and D&I committees. The greatest strength he can provide for the Fitness Education Committee is access. Access to more coaches and access to a more diverse audience for the fitness series as well as different ways to promote participation in those events across a broader cross section of the membership.

Kenny Brisbin is a great leader and a fantastic asset to USMS. Having him in the role of VP of Community Services will provide a new voice, a strong voice, and a clear direction for the future of the organization. His leadership will provide new pathways forward towards our membership, outreach, and service goals. If the mission of USMS still remains to Promote Health, Wellness, Fitness and Competition through swimming then you need look no further than Kenny Brisbin.

With Gratitude,

Trey Taylor

NCMS Chair, Coaches Committee Member, Head Coach Gaston Gators Masters Team, Level 4 Coach,  
Vice Chair Gaston Aquatics