

## Robin Smith - Candidate for Vice President of Programs



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

The candidate was nominated and recommended by *Phyllis Quinn and Catherine Rust* and received a letter of recommendation from *Kenny Brisbin* 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:***

- 2022 Hybrid / Denver, CO (Sep 16-18, 2022) – attended in person
- 2021 Virtual (Sep 24-26, 2021)
- 2020 Virtual (Aug 30-Sep 27, 2020)
- 2019 St. Louis, MO (Sep 11-15, 2019)
- 2018 Jacksonville, FL (Sep 26-30, 2018)
- 2017 Dallas, TX (Sep 13-17, 2017)
- 2016 Atlanta, GA (Sep 21-25, 2016)
- 2015 Kansas City, MO (Sep 30- Oct 4, 2015)
- 2013 Anaheim, CA (Sep 11-15, 2013)

### Section Three: Questions

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

I am seeking re-election to the position of Vice President of Programs because I want to continue the work of assisting USMS in carrying out its Mission and Vision. My thirteen years of volunteer experience has been at both the local and the national levels of USMS, and has included oversight and support of Open Water, Long Distance, and Officials. I am a swimmer and a coach, and I compete in the pool, in open water, and in multi-sport events. I am also a fitness swimmer and enjoy swimming on my own and teaching others to swim. I believe that the breadth of my volunteer experiences, along with my recent term on the Board of Directors, will continue to bring additional knowledge and expertise to the USMS Board

***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?***

The major issue facing USMS now and in the future is effective and sustainable growth of the Organization. USMS has been experiencing “growing pains” for a while now and has been looking into various ways to create a new business model. This is important in order to be able to sustain USMS into the next 50 years and beyond. All businesses and organizations face the challenges of scalability and adaptability, when assessing their ability to grow. In order for USMS to grow its membership, the ability to change and adapt is imperative. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, I will continue to use this platform to listen, learn, and to really hear what is being said. And I will continue to use this information, in combination with lessons learned and best business practices, to help drive new ideas and processes forward that support and value each of our members, and that will guide USMS into its future.

***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:***

Investment Committee (2023) – Chair: Ralph Davis  
Long Distance Committee (2021) – Chair: Ali Hall  
Long Distance Committee (2020) – Chair: Ali Hall  
Long Distance Committee (2019) – Chair: Ali Hall  
Long Distance Committee (2018) – Chair: Ali Hall  
Fitness Education Committee (2016) – Chair: Mary Jurey

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

Southern Pacific LMSC Open Water Committee Chair (Jan 2018 to Dec 2021)  
Southern California Swimming LSC Open Water Committee Chair (Jan 2020 to Dec 2022)  
Collaborate with LMSC and LSC Officials Committees to support certification activities and provide training opportunities for Open Water Officials.

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

I am retired from a 40 year career as a Medical Professional (RN, PHN) working in Healthcare, Global Clinical Research & Development, and Clinical Trial Disclosure.

Southern Pacific LMSC Vice Chair and Sanctions Chair (Jan 2022 to present)

Southern Pacific LMSC Fitness Education Committee Chair (Jun 2015 to Jan 2018)

Southern Pacific LMSC Secretary (Jul 2012 to Dec 2017)

Southern Pacific LMSC participate in Monthly Meetings and Ad Hoc Subcommittees (2010-present)

Irvine Novaquatics, Inc., Irvine, CA Assistant Coach (Mar 2015 to present)

USMS Certified Coach (Level 3 Oct 2015, Levels 1&2 Sep 2014)

Certified USMS Adult Learn to Swim Instructor (Mar 2015)

USA Swimming Certified Coach (Sep 2019 to present)

USMS Coach-on-Deck (2015, 2017, 2019, 2022, 2023)

US Aquatic Sports Annual Convention – Volunteer at Convention Registration Desk (2015 to 2019)

Recipient of USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award (2015)

Recipient of USMS Open Water Service Award (2021)

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

Hello Everyone! My name is Robin Smith from the Southern Pacific LMSC. I am seeking re-election to the Office of Vice President of Programs because I want to continue the work of assisting USMS in carrying out its Mission and Vision. My thirteen years of volunteer experience has been at both the local and the national levels of USMS, and has included oversight and support of Open Water, Long Distance, and Officials. I am a swimmer, a Certified USMS and USA Swimming Coach, and a Certified USMS Adult Learn to Swim Instructor. I believe that the breadth of my volunteer experiences, along with my recent term on the Board of Directors, will continue to bring additional knowledge and expertise to the Organization, as we continue to move USMS into its future. Thank you for your consideration.



**U.S. MASTERS  
SWIMMING**

Nomination and Recommendation for Robin Smith, Vice President of Programs

From: Phyllis Quinn, Chair USMS Long Distance Committee  
Catherine Rust, Vice Chair USMS Long Distance Committee

April 25, 2023

To: The Elections Committee

We would like to nominate and endorse Robin Smith for the position of USMS Vice President of Programs.

Robin is currently serving (2021-2023) as USMS Vice President of Programs. During her term at this position, Robin has consistently shown responsibility, leadership and vision for USMS.

Achievements of her Executive Committee liaison with the USMS Long Distance Committee include: Supporting the new LDC Chairperson and new Vice Chairperson offering guidance as needed to the committee leadership; Facilitated and represented the Long Distance Committee to the Board of Directors and National Office throughout the process to the Virtual National Championships (previously Postal) and the pandemic/weather/climate issues facing Open Water National Championship hosts; Currently involvement in the process of facilitating committee discussions with the National Office on changes to the Open Water National Championships; Worked with presentation of an emergency rules proposals with Open Water National Championship hosts and the Board of Directors.

In connection to the USMS Long Distance Committee, Robin has always been available to discuss any issue that arises. She is experienced and thoughtful so her advice is always welcome. She is very diplomatic when dealing with conflict and helps resolve issues making sure all voices are heard.

Robin has volunteered on all levels of USMS, National, LMSC and Club Level. Along with Vice President Programs she is currently the Southern Pacific LMSC Vice Chair and Sanctions Chair. In prior years she served on the USMS Fitness Education Committee and the USMS Long Distance Committee. Because of her many years of outstanding service, Robin has received the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award and the USMS Open Water Service Award. Also, she is a USMS Certified Level 3 USMS Coach, Certified USA Swimming Coach and Certified USMS ALTS Instructor.

Robin's qualifications for the Vice President – Programs is outstanding. Her extensive volunteering gives her knowledge and experience and shows a deep commitment to the continued success of USMS.

We endorse Robin wholeheartedly as Vice President – Programs and look forward to her contributions and participation with the Long Distance Committee and the USMS mission.

Closing,  
Phyllis Quinn, Chair Long Distance Committee  
Catherine Rust, Vice Chair Long Distance Committee



**U.S. MASTERS  
SWIMMING**

From: Kenny Brisbin

Date: April 22nd 2023

Subject: Recommendation for Robin Smith for Vice President of Programs

To: The Elections Committee

It is an honor to support and recommend Robin Smith for the office of USMS Vice President of Programs. I have worked very closely with Robin for more than ten years in various roles. These include, but are not limited to: sanctioning both pool and open water events, working with officials, city municipalities, and event directors to assure these events were done safely and followed all guidelines by USMS.

This position will require specific knowledge, the ability to multitask, patience, and excellent leadership skills. Robin embodies all of these traits. She has demonstrated her extensive knowledge of U.S. Masters swimming through her work in multiple critical roles within our LMSC. Robin is the right person to lead USMS in this position.

Sincerely,

*Ken Brisbin*

Kenny Brisbin

USMS Chair Coaches Committee

SPMS Chair

Long Beach Grunions Head Coach