



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Candidate Application Form

Date Submitted Sunday, June 16, 2024

Section 1: Candidate Information

Board Position Title **At-Large Director-Colonies Zone**

Candidate Name (as on USMS registration) GUY DAVIS

Preferred Pronouns **No pronouns - use my name**

Section 2: Qualification Questions

I am a current USMS member in good standing in this election year.

Yes

I have attended one or more annual meetings in the past five years.

Yes

USMS annual meetings attended in the last 5 years

Year Attended
2023
2022
2021

I plan to attend the Annual Meeting this year.

Yes

I plan to attend all Annual Meetings, Board of Director meetings, and other assigned meetings during my tenure.

Yes

I have the technological capability to fully participate in USMS videoconference meetings.

Yes

For at-large director positions: I am a member of an LMSC within my zone of candidacy.

Yes

Section 3: Nomination and Recommendations

First Nominator and Recommender

Recommender 1: Name

Douglas Sayles

Second Recommender

Recommender 2: Name

Teddy Decker

Recommender 2 LMSC or N/A

New Mexico

Recommender 1 LMSC

New England

Section 4: USMS Background

USMS Permanent Member Number 034PR

USMS Profile URL <https://www.usms.org/people/034PR>

Current LMSC New England

Years as a USMS Member 25

Service at the LMSC Level

How many years have you served your LMSC? 6-10

LMSC Service History

LMSC Position/Committee	Length of Service (Years)
Vice Chair	8

Service at the Zone Level

How many years have you served at the Zone level? 0

Service at the National Level

How many years have you served at the National level? 6-10

National Service History

National Position/Committee	Length of Service (Years)
Investment Committee	9
Finance Committee	8

Section 5: General Questions for all Candidates

Please state why you are interested in serving on the USMS Board of Directors.

Masters Swimming has significantly improved my quality of life, so I would like to give back by doing all I can to help USMS thrive and grow. I believe that a decade of experience in volunteer governance roles on the New England LMSC board and the USMS Finance and Investment committees has provided me with a solid understanding of the organization and, along with my professional background, prepared me to constructively contribute to the strategic and financial oversight of USMS as an at-large board member.

What does USMS's mission mean to you? Please share a personal story.

My story epitomizes USMS's mission of empowering adults to improve their lives through swimming. When I graduated from college and embarked on my career in the early 1980s, I appreciated and valued the opportunity to train, compete, and socialize with other adults who, like me, were eager to continue participating in a sport that we had enjoyed as kids. Early in my work career, my swimming initially gravitated toward independent fitness swimming, but I soon found that the structure and organization of Masters swimming provided a much richer and more satisfying environment than swimming laps on my own. During the most stressful years of my career, I came to appreciate the mental health benefits of organized group swimming workouts. And when osteoarthritis and two hip replacements curtailed my other fitness options, swimming was integral to my rehabilitation. Of course, my life has also been enriched by the many friends I've made through Masters swimming.

What do you consider to be USMS's greatest opportunities for the next 2 to 4 years? How would you advocate for these opportunities on the national board level?

I support USMS's strategic priorities. Fostering Masters Swimming clubs, developing and supporting well-qualified coaches, and offering a diverse range of high-quality Masters Swimming events in the pool and open water should always remain a core focus for us. I am excited by the prospects for Grown-Up Swimming to provide fun summer events for all types of adult swimmers. I also appreciate College Club Swimming because supporting young adults' enjoyment of organized swimming provides a natural bridge to Masters Swimming which hopefully in the long term will refresh the membership of USMS. I believe that USMS should continually make incremental improvements via selective experimentation, innovation, and leveraging of our resources and capabilities to provide value for all our members. In these respects our agenda is full, so as a board member I would advocate that we focus on executing our established priorities.

Section 6: Position-Specific Questions

What makes you a good candidate for a USMS at-large director? What skills, experiences, and attributes do you have that will contribute to the success of USMS?

I have several decades of experience with Masters swimming and volunteering. Since 1982, I have belonged to a number of Masters swimming clubs in the United States and United Kingdom and have participated in dozens of pool and open water swim competitions – from local fun meets to world championships in races from 25 yards to 16 miles – and completed an English Channel marathon swim. I have served on club, regional, and national committees and boards. These experiences have engendered my appreciation of the breadth of our Masters swimming community and understanding of the organizations that support this community. Also, my professional consulting, finance, and investment experience has given me a good grounding in financial management and strategic business planning. I hope to use this background to USMS's benefit as a board member, just as I have tried to do as the chair of the Finance Committee.

Describe a situation where you had to balance your own perspective with input from individuals representing various viewpoints, and how you ensured that all perspectives were considered.

During the pandemic and its aftermath, USMS faced unprecedented financial disruption. During this period, the Finance Committee played an important role in advising the board and management team. However, there were occasional differences of opinion among committee members about how to navigate some difficult financial and organizational tradeoffs. As the chair, I ensured that every committee member was well briefed on the management team's analysis and reporting of our financial position and outlook and was able to air their respective points of view. When there was no consensus of opinion, we prepared a memorandum for the board summarizing our committee's deliberations and differing perspectives, thereby providing context for the board's consideration rather than a simple one-line, majority-approved recommendation..

Section 7: Agreements and Submission

Election Operating Guidelines Accepted

Board Standards Accepted

Conflict of Interest Policy and Questionnaire Accepted

Code of Conduct Accepted

Unsporting Conduct Accepted

Attestation Accepted

Consent to Publish Accepted

Consent to Run Accepted

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eugene Smith', written in a cursive style.

Date Signed Sunday, June 16, 2024



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Nomination/Recommendation Form

Submitted on

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Section 1: Nominator/Recommender Information

Name

Douglas Sayles

LMSC or N/A

New England

Zone or N/A

Colonies

USMS Permanent Member Number

S0UPY

Section 2: Candidate Information

Board Position Title

At-Large Director-Colonies Zone

Candidate Name (as on their USMS registration)

Guy Davis

Section 3: Nomination & Recommendation

How do you know the candidate?

Guy is a friend and fellow New England LMSC swimmer and governance volunteer whom I have known for over 12 years. We have swum in meets and open water events together, served on the LMSC board and task forces together, and attended USAS conventions and USMS annual meetings together with the New England delegation.

What makes this person a good candidate for this position? What skills, experiences, or attributes do they bring that will contribute to the success of USMS in this role?

I am honored to nominate and recommend Guy Davis as a candidate for the position of USMS At-Large Director from the Colonies Zone.

Guy's qualifications include his intelligence, business acumen, tact, and lifelong involvement with swimming at the local, national, and international levels. He is a respected member of the USMS Finance and Investment committees, an advisor to USMS leadership, and a former member of the New England LMSC board, including eight years of service as the LMSC vice chair and two as the Great Bay Masters Swimming president and club rep to the LMSC board.

Guy's low-key manner belies the many contributions he has made to Masters Swimming behind the scenes. For example, he deserves credit for helping maintain a healthy New England LMSC and productive LMSC board over the past decade. During his LMSC board tenure, he chaired our Elections Nominating, Championship Meet, and LCM Mini Meet subcommittees; contributed to our COVID-19 Relief Grant

Program and Lake Willoughby Open Water National Championship task forces; provided financial expertise and reviewed LMSC bank records; and contributed content to our newsletters and website.

In 2012, Guy recruited me into the NELMSC registrar role, one of the many people he has enlisted into volunteerism. When I became the LMSC board chair, I called him "the devil on my shoulder" because of his penchant for playing Devil's advocate, but his insight, sardonic wit, and ability to frame issues in a constructive context make him an invaluable and fun governance partner and friend.

Irish-born, Guy's life includes formative periods in the United Kingdom, Africa, and the United States. In his youth, he was selected to various British national swimming teams and placed fourth in the 400-meter freestyle at the National Championships (Olympic Trials) in 1976. He subsequently earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics and master's degree in economics from Oxford University and built a successful career in investment banking. He also swam, officiated, and volunteer-coached for a London-based swim club for nine years, and served for eight years as a board member of the national governing body of sport now called British Swimming Limited.

While working in the United States during the 1980s, Guy joined U.S. Masters Swimming in the Potomac Valley LMSC and achieved Pool All-American status in 1986 before returning to the United Kingdom. He temporarily resided and swam in the New York area during the 1990s and maintained USMS membership most of his time back in the United Kingdom.

In 2008, Guy returned to the United States and settled in New Hampshire, where he became a part-time investment and small business advisor, a youth age-group team volunteer coach, and a core member and leader of Great Bay Masters Swimming. In recent years, he has been a USMS Long Distance All-American and All-Star and, in 2020, completed an English Channel crossing marathon swim.

As the outgoing chair of the Finance Committee, longtime member of the Investment Committee, part of the advisory group that evaluated purchasing Grown Up Swimming, and advisor to the president and CEO vis a vis USMS's pandemic response plan in 2020, Guy is well-versed in the organization's financial position and strategic focus and would hit the ground running as an at-large board member.

In summary, the breadth, depth, and success of Guy's swimming and business careers and the high regard his teammates and fellow governance volunteers have for him speak volumes about his attributes. I wholeheartedly encourage every USMS delegate to closely consider his nomination packet and qualifications.

Douglas Sayles
Chair, LMSC Development Committee & Colonies Zone
Membership Coordinator, New England LMSC
Member, New England Masters Swim Club – SwimRI

Section 4: Agreements & Submission

Nominator/First Recommender

Accepted

Attestation

Accepted

Consent to Publish

Accepted

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ogh. Sgh". The letters are cursive and somewhat stylized.

Date Signed

Wednesday, June 19, 2024



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Nomination/Recommendation Form

Submitted on

Monday, June 17, 2024

Section 1: Nominator/Recommender Information

Name

Teddy Decker

LMSC or N/A

New Mexico

Zone or N/A

Southwest

USMS Permanent Member Number

06B2Z

Section 2: Candidate Information

Board Position Title

At-Large Director-Colonies Zone

Candidate Name (as on their USMS registration)

Guy Davis

Section 3: Nomination & Recommendation

How do you know the candidate?

I have worked with Guy through the finance and investment committees during my time as a member of the committees and as treasurer for the USMS BOD.

What makes this person a good candidate for this position? What skills, experiences, or attributes do they bring that will contribute to the success of USMS in this role?

Guy has gained a thorough knowledge of the business aspects of USMS at a national level through his time on the finance and investment committees. His professional experience in the business world will provide valuable insight and benefit to guiding a national organization.

In addition, his swimming experience, passion for both open water and pool swimming, and his time spent being involved in his LMSC give him a great perspective to weigh the needs of the individual swimmer, LMSC, and national level organization all at once.

Guy's time as chair of the finance committee gives him additional experience to handle the myriad of passionate personalities that being a leader of USMS at the national level requires. In my experience, he does a great job hearing out all sides of a discussion and calmly evaluating all options to make the decisions that he feels will be of greatest benefit to USMS as a whole.

Guy will be a valuable addition to the USMS BOD.

Section 4: Agreements & Submission

Second Recommender

Accepted

Attestation

Accepted

Consent to Publish

Accepted

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and lines, enclosed within a rectangular box.

Date Signed

Monday, June 17, 2024