



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Candidate Application Form

Date Submitted

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Section 1: Candidate Information

Board Position Title

At-Large Director-Breadbasket Zone

Candidate Name (as on USMS registration)

Samantha Kraft

LinkedIn Profile URL

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/samantha-kraft-219518128/>

Preferred Pronouns

She/Her/Hers

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 |

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

Carrie Stolar

Second Recommender

Recommender 2: Name

Beth Nymeyer

Recommender 2 LMSC or N/A

Minnesota

Recommender 1 LMSC

Minnesota

Section 4: USMS Background

USMS Permanent Member Number WZBJ9

USMS Profile URL <https://www.usms.org/people/WZBJ9>

Current LMSC Minnesota

Years as a USMS Member 4

Service at the LMSC Level

How many years have you served your LMSC? 1-5

LMSC Service History

| LMSC Position/Committee | Length of Service (Years) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Vice President | 1 |

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? 1-5

National Service History

| National Position/Committee | Length of Service (Years) |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Finance Committee | 1 |

Section 5: General Questions for all Candidates

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

I am interested in serving on the board of directors because I believe I can bring a young and fresh ideas to USMS and help get more younger people invovled

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

USMS has improved my live through swimming. I have fell in love with swimming again like when I was a kid. After swimming in college, I got very burnout of the sport & didn't want to do anything with it. A couple of years later, I found out about masters swimming, and met some really cool people & life long friends. It has improved my life by building a community for me & keeping me active.

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?

USMS acquired Adult swimming recently. I think this will be a great oppportunity for USMS to get more young swimmers to join again. I would advocate for more adult swimming clubs to pop up in more cities in my zone.

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 been swimming since the age of 7 yrs old. I have so much passion & love for the sport. I want everyone to experience the same love & passion. By that, I coach high school girls swimming, I am involve with masters swimming, I help volunteer with ALTS, & I continue to find new ways to get involve.

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.

I coach high school girls swimming for Minneapolis School. High school girls have a lot of opinion & perspectives. There was a situation once how to do the banquet. I was able to let the seniors express how they wanted to celebrate but also factoring what is feasible.

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 'S. W. T.', written in a cursive style.

Date Signed

Wednesday, June 19, 2024



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Nomination/Recommendation Form

Submitted on

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Section 1: Nominator/Recommender Information

Name

Carrie Stolar

LMSC or N/A

Minnesota

Zone or N/A

Breadbasket

USMS Permanent Member Number

025C1

Section 2: Candidate Information

Board Position Title

At-Large Director-Breadbasket Zone

Candidate Name (as on their USMS registration)

Samantha Kraft

Section 3: Nomination & Recommendation

How do you know the candidate?

Sam is my Vice Chair for Minnesota Masters. I also frequently swim open water with her and travel with her to USMS meets (including Nationals) and open water races.

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?

Sam is passionate about swimming. She is a thoughtful decision maker. She has a background in finance and currently sits on the USMS Finance Committee. Her background in non-profit finance will bring valuable experience to the USMS board. I personally recruited her to be the Vice Chair for Minnesota Masters. Sam is always willing to step up and help in whatever role is needed, whether on a board or at swim event (pool or open water). Seeing the need for officials in Minnesota, Sam took it upon herself to get qualified as an official this spring and has already worked several meets. Sam is also an assistant high school swim coach and last year was voted assistant swim coach of the year for the Minnesota State High School league.

Section 4: Agreements & Submission

Nominator/First Recommender

Accepted

Attestation

Accepted

Consent to Publish

Accepted

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carrie St. John". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Date Signed

Wednesday, June 19, 2024



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Board of Directors Nomination/Recommendation Form

Submitted on

Wednesday, June 19, 2024

Section 1: Nominator/Recommender Information

Name

Elizabeth Nymeyer

LMSC or N/A

Minnesota

Zone or N/A

Breadbasket

USMS Permanent Member Number

06JK7

Section 2: Candidate Information

Board Position Title

At-Large Director-Breadbasket Zone

Candidate Name (as on their USMS registration)

Samantha Kraft

Section 3: Nomination & Recommendation

How do you know the candidate?

Sam Kraft and I have worked on the board together for over a year. After swimming with her and getting to know her better at Nationals and practices, I asked her to join the Minnesota Board Informally. We also swam under the same coach in high school. She has since accomplished many amazing things within our LMSC such as becoming an official (you may have seen her at Nationals!) and our local vice chair.

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?

Sam Kraft brings many things to the table at a local and national level. Her background in non profit finance and work on the USMS finance committee bring a solid financial perspective to any volunteer work she engages in. Sam brings a fresh perspective with her younger age demographic. As a division III swimmer she is able to bring a voice to the younger membership USMS hopes to capture.

At a local level she steps up to any task asked of her with ease, her naturally thoughtful personality ensures tasks are done in a timely manner and inclusive of those she works with. She is a true team player, willing to get the job done with everyone's best interests at heart. These are skills that are essential to the success of any board.

I highly endorse Samantha Kraft for the At-Large Breadbasket Zone representative position!

Section 4: Agreements & Submission

Second Recommender

Accepted

Attestation

Accepted

Consent to Publish

Accepted

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'G' followed by a series of connected, wavy lines that form the rest of the name.

Date Signed

Wednesday, June 19, 2024