

Kris Wingenroth – South Central Zone Candidate for At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Kris Wingenroth is a member in good standing of U.S. Masters Swimming. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during her tenure in office.

The candidate is running for reelection and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or letters of recommendation 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 Meeting in the past five years?* X Yes ___ No

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

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting since at least 1984. (38 years)

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in this position because I wish to continue my service to the USMS Board of Directors. I have learned much about the operations of USMS and its Board of Directors in my first term and I believe that I can continue to be a productive Board member.

My past experience in USMS is varied. I have been involved in Masters Swimming as a competitor since 1978 and as a volunteer at the local level since the early 1980s. Over the years I have served as Secretary, Sanction Chair, Vice-Chair and Chairman in the Gulf LMSC. I am currently the Chairman. At the national level, I have served on the Finance Committee, Rules Committee and Legislation Committee. I was also the South Central Zone Chairman for many years (starting in the late 1980s). My long-time service to USMS and my varied experiences and roles in the swimming world help me understand the variety of issues that the Board of Directors deal with. My experiences at so many USMS Conventions and in so many roles in the USMS local and national organization have given me a good overview and understanding of the organization, it's structure and how it functions. This provided me with the ability to quickly become an active and productive member of the BOD.

I also bring a wide perspective of swimming experiences that help me understand the many sides of issues. I have been a career swimming coach, coaching all levels from USA age group, high school,

NCAA college (Rice University) and Masters at my local YMCA. I am a USMS Level 3 certified coach. I have been a certified Official and have officiated high school, college and masters meets. Additionally, I have been the meet director for college and masters meets at the local level, hosted several South Central Zone Championships and been the meet director for the National Senior Games when it was held at the University of Houston. I have also held 91 top ten rankings and 3 All America rankings. Since I have experience in swimming as an athlete, coach, official and meet director, I have an understanding of masters swimming from multiple perspectives.

I have also brought to the Board a historical memory of the development of USMS and a background with multiple perspectives. My psychology training has helped me become skilled at listening in an unbiased manner to all sides of an argument without becoming emotionally involved. I am analytical and good at thinking "ahead" about ramifications of policies and I am flexible, not afraid of change. I am comfortable in speaking up to be sure my side of an issue is presented but I also listen with an open mind to all sides of arguments. I am excited about the future direction of USMS and will consider it an honor to be able to continue to participate at the Board 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?

The obvious current issue for USMS is rebuilding programs, events and clubs to pre-Covid levels and then to grow from there. All signs are that the organization is rebounding quickly. The USMS leadership must continue to guide this process with a purposeful allocation of resources, both human and monetary. The Board of Directors has the responsibility to ensure the success of this rebuilding. I bring experience to the Board and can continue to help it meet these goals.

Another challenge is to keep USMS ready to meet the future. We must evaluate our programs and procedures with an eye for the current and future issues and challenges that may arise. We must keep an open mind but also nurture an appreciation for our past history and values. This evaluation and any proposed changes must be done thoughtfully and carefully. I can bring a "member" perspective to the Board to ensure that different perspectives are being considered.

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:

Board of Directors: South Central Zone At-Large Delegate - 2020 - 2022

South Central Zone Committee Chairman: 1989 - 1993, 1996 - 1998

Marketing Committee: 1986 – 1987, Mary Lee Watson, Chairman

Zone Committee: 1989 – 1999, Edie Gruender, Pat Maley, Betsy Durant, Hugh Moore, Chairmen

Finance Committee: 1985 – 1987, 1989 – 1993 Lucy Johnson, Chairman
2002 – 2007, Tom Boak and Jeff Moxie, Chairmen

Rules Committee: 1997 – 2015, Tom Boak, Leo Letendre and Kathy Casey, Chairmen
I served as the Secretary of the Rules Committee in 1997, 2003 – 2015

Legislation Committee: 2016 – 2019, Meg Smath and Richard Garza, Chairmen

*Information from 1994 – 1996 is missing

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

I have been active in the Gulf LMSC since its inception. I wrote the original by-laws with Tom Boak when USMS broke off from the AAU. I have served on the Gulf LMSC Board of Directors in one position or another nearly continuously. I am currently the Gulf LMSC Chairman.

I have been the Meet Director for several South Central Short Course Zone Meets (2001, 2004) and the National Senior Games held at the University of Houston in 2011.

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting since at least 1983. (37 years)

I have been the Meet Director for several South Central Short Course Zone Meets and the National Senior Games.

I have been a certified official and officiated high school, college and Masters meets.

I am an ASCA Level 4 and USMS Level 3 certified coach

I attended the 2019 Leadership Summit.

I attended the 2022 Relay.

I was a winner of a Dorothy Donnelly Award, a USMS Volunteer Appreciation Award, in 2003.

I was the winner of the Emmett Hines Award, a Gulf LMSC Volunteer Appreciation Award, in 2017.

I was the winner of the Jesse Coon Award, a South Central Zone Volunteer Appreciation Award, in 2020.

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

I hope to be able to continue my service to USMS with another term as the South Central Zone Board of Directors At-Large representative. I believe my length of involvement in USMS administration (over 35 years), my experience on the Finance, Rules and Legislation Committees, and my wide experience as a competitor, coach, official and meet director give me a unique ability to view issues from a broader perspective than many members have. I am open minded, creative, and analytical. I am comfortable both fighting for what I believe but in also compromising with others. I know I can be a productive member of the USMS Board of Directors.