

Announcements

CERTIFICATION TABLE HOURS

Wednesday 8am to 5pm – Exhibitor Area
Thursday 7:00-7:30 am – Exhibitor Area
Thursday 7:30-10:00am – Conference Center A
Thursday afternoon – Saturday – come find Debbie

MEET & GREETINGS

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION

Thursday 9:15am – 9:45am
Conference Center A

LUNCH WITH NEW DELEGATES

Friday 11:45am – 1:00 pm
Details will be available at the Delegate Orientation

MEET THE CANDIDATES FORUM

Thursday 12:00pm – 1:45pm – Conference Center A
Meet the candidates running for
USMS At Large Board of Director Positions

USMS HOSPITALITY SUITE

The Florida LMSC has graciously agreed to run the USMS Hospitality Suite. The suite will be open beginning Wednesday evening. Breakfast – Thu thru Sun, Lunch - Thu thru Sat, Evening - snacks and beverages. Come socialize with other USMS volunteers in room 4104!

“COMMON INTEREST” BROWN BAG LUNCH

Attention LMSC Fitness, Coaches, Finance and other officers, potential officers or anyone interested in what the responsibilities of an officer are.

Join others for a Brown Bag Lunch on **Saturday in the HOD room Convention Center A**. This will be an informal session where like officers will group together and discuss their positions and responsibilities. We hope to see lots of you there!

WORKOUTS

Thursday, Friday & Saturday morning 6:00am – 7:00am

SWIM

Bolles School Pool
Bus pick up at 5:30 AM (PROMPTLY!) outside the door by the gift shop

DRYLAND

Conference Center B

EVENING ACTIVITIES

WELCOME RECEPTION

Wednesday 7:00pm - 9:00 pm

This theme for this year's welcome reception is Jimmy Buffett/Margaritaville. Come dressed in your straw hats and tropical shirts and compete for the prize for who is the most "Buffeted". This will take place in the Exhibitor Area with cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

LMSC SOCIAL – Sonny's Barbeque

Hosted by the Florida LMSC
Thursday 7:30pm - 10:00pm
Hospitality Suite – Room 4104

IMSHOF INDUCTION

Friday 6:00pm – 8:30pm
6:00-6:45 pm – Reception (cash bar)
6:45-8:45 pm – Induction Ceremony
River Terrace 3

All USMS delegates are invited (complimentary tickets) to attend the induction of US Masters Swimmers David Guthrie, Tim Shead and Jean Troy

USAS BANQUET

Saturday 7:00pm
Grand Ballroom

Each USAS organization will present their annual awards. USMS presents the **Coach of the Year** Award and the **Ransom Arthur** Award.

HOSPITALITY SUITE HOURS - Room 4104

Wednesday

4:00pm – 6:00pm & 8:30pm – 11:00pm

Thursday

6:30am - 8:00am – breakfast
11:00am – 12:00pm – lunch
2:00pm – 5:00pm & 9:00pm – 11:00pm

Friday

6:30am – 9:00am – breakfast
11:45am – 1:00pm – lunch
8:00pm – 11:00pm

Saturday

6:30am – 9:00am – breakfast
11:30am – 1:00pm – lunch
9:30 pm – 1:00am

Sunday

7:00am – 9:00 am – breakfast

Announcements

ORIENTATIONS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Wednesday 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Boardroom 1

If you are a committee chair, Chris Colburn, USMS Secretary, will provide a Committee Chair Orientation on Wednesday pm. This is where you'll pick up your folder. Chris will explain the procedure for producing minutes and also for getting reimbursement. Zone Chairs should also attend this orientation, since they too will be chairing a meeting. Chris will be sending an email with the forms for you to print out or download to you laptop prior to convention.

DELEGATE

Thursday 9:15 – 9:45 am
Conference Center A

Chris Stevenson, VP of Local Operations will provide a "USAS Convention Orientation" at the first House of Delegates (HOD) on Thursday. Chris will introduce several members of the USMS leadership and review valuable information to improve your convention experience.

NEW BOARD MEMBER – USMS GOVERNANCE/LEADERSHIP PRESENTATION

Friday 1:00pm – 2:15 pm
City Terrace 5

Dr. Jim Miller, USMS Past President will provide a "New Board Member Orientation" to new members of the USMS Board on Friday. This orientation includes information on your responsibilities as a member of the USMS Board of Directors. This meeting is also open to those who are interested in serving as an officer in the future.

EDUCATION

COACHES CERTIFICATION

The USMS Coaches Committee and Education Services have developed four levels of Masters coach certification. Full details with course outlines and on how Masters coach certification works are available at <http://www.usms.org/content/coachcert>.

USMS will be offering Level 3 certification at the start of convention at an off-site location:

Wednesday, September 17th

Level 3 Certification 9:00am – 3:00pm

Courtyard Marriott Jacksonville - Butler Blvd.
4670 Lenoir Ave South,
Jacksonville, FL 32216

Online registration only. Registration closes at midnight pacific time on September 16, 2014 or when the course enrollment fills - Level 3 (25).

Fees: \$225 for Level 3 Course (recognized coaches receive a \$10 discount).

Registration: <https://www.clubassistant.com/club/clinics/reserve.cfm?c=1758&cid=60591>

For more information contact Marianne Groenings mgroenings@usms.org

Announcements

RISK MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP

Friday 9:30am – 10:30am – City Terrace 8

Anna Lea Matysek, USMS Membership Director presents an overview of the USMS insurance coverage and answer any questions you may have.

LMSC WORKSHOPS

Adult Learn to Swim Program: A New Paradigm of Volunteerism – Bill Meier

Friday 9:30am – 10:30am – City Terrace 10

In this workshop, New England LMSC Chair Bill Meier will share how the New England LMSC organized the April Adult Learn-to-Swim initiative, to attract more than 100 brand new volunteers, who gave of their time to teach other adults to learn-to-swim. Bill will share the planning process including when they started planning, how they communicated with clubs/workout groups, and what training was provided to volunteers

Managing a Budget – Tom Boak & Harry Greenfield

Friday 1:00pm – 2:15pm - City Terrace 10

This workshop chaired by Tom Boak and Harry Greenfield will focus on the steps of creating a budget for an LMSC, the qualities of an effective budget, how to get started, estimating the dates and the amounts of revenue generated, then presenting the budget. This would be a good workshop for Treasurers and LMSC Chairs.

Bring Your Own Bylaws and Major Governing Documents (BYOB and MGD) – Hugh Moore & Paige Buehler

Friday 1:00pm – 2:15pm - City Terrace 8

As the title requests, participants are asked to bring their LMSC bylaws and any policies or other governing documents to participate in a peer review to find weaknesses, elements worth sharing and creative approaches to structure and process.

Peer-To-Peer Live – Dan Cox

Saturday 10:30 – 11:30am – Conference Center A

Everything you ever wanted to know about your LMSC but were afraid to ask! Here's your chance to ask someone who holds a similar position as you to find out how they would handle an issue or problem. Ho to do it...? With Brainwriting! Learn a technique similar to brainstorming and trigger sessions, the difference being instead of verbally "brainstorming", participants record ideas individually in writing. This small breakout group format will give participants the opportunity to pose at least one question or problem faced within their LMSC. At the end of the session, all the responses will go back to the original owner to be read, reviewed and discussed.

SPORTS MEDICINE PRESENTATION – NUTRITION FOR ATHLETES

Thursday 5:30pm – 6:30pm – Conference Center A

A panel presentation with Alicia Kendig, Sport Dietitian with the US Olympic Committee and Dr Jim Miller. Committee member and sports nutritionist Sally Berry will introduce and moderate the panel.

OPEN WATER WORKSHOP – OPEN WATER ESSENTIALS FOR SWIMMERS

Friday 1:00pm – 2:15pm – Conference Center A

Personal Safety, Starting and Finishing, Navigation, Escorted Swim Planning, Feeding

TABLE OF CONTENTS

USMS Convention Schedule	1
National Office – The State of USMS	3
Strategic Plan	4
USMS Executive Committee Reports	
• President	5
• Vice President Administration	5
• Vice President Local Operations	6
• Vice President Programs.....	7
• Vice President of Community Services	10
• Treasurer	11
• Secretary	11
• Legal Counsel	12
Committee Reports & Agendas	
• Championship.....	13
• Coaches.....	15
• Fitness Education.....	17
• History & Archives.....	18
• Legislation	19
• LMSC Development.....	20
• Long Distance.....	22
• Officials	24
• Open Water.....	26
• Recognition & Awards	27
• Records & Tabulation.....	28
• Registration.....	30
• Rules	30
• Sports Medicine & Science	34
• Breadbasket Zone	36
• Colonies Zone.....	36
• Dixie Zone	47
• Great Lakes Zone.....	38
• Northwest Zone	39
• Oceana Zone	40
• South Central Zone	41
• Southwest Zone	41

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors	
• Breadbasket – Bruce Hopson	42
• Colonies – David Diehl	43
• Colonies - Roberta Saint-Amour	45
• Dixie – Sean Fitzgerald	48
• Great Lakes - Dan Cox.....	51
• Great Lakes – Ralph Davis.....	55
• Great Lakes – CJ Rushman	59
• Northwest – Sarah Welch.....	62
• Oceana – Leianne Crittenden	65
• South Central – Jill Gellatly	69
• Southwest – Michael Heather	71
• Southwest – Dan Wegner.....	73
• Southwest – Laura Winslow	76

BOD Committee Reports & Agendas

• Audit Committee	79
• Compensation & Benefits Committee.....	79
• Finance Committee	80
• Governance Committee.....	81
• Swimming Saves Lives	82
• Investment Committee	83

USMS Liaison & Special Assignment Reports

• FINA Masters Committee	86
• ISHOF Liaison	86
• UANA Representative.....	87
• USMS Liaison to IGLA	87

Proposed Changes

Rules.....	89
Long Distance Rules	113
Legislation.....	135

2015 Proposed Budget..... 136

Attachments

- #1 - Check In & Certification Procedure
- #2 - Rules of the USMS Annual Meeting
- #3 – Who’s Who in USMS
- #4 – Roberts Rules of Order



U. S. Masters Swimming

United States Aquatic Sports Annual Convention – Jacksonville, Florida 2014

WEDNESDAY, September 17, 2014

9:00am - 2:00pm	Board of Directors	Conference Center A
2:30pm – 4:30pm	BOD Task Force #1	Boardroom 3
	BOD Task Force #2	Boardroom 4
2:30pm – 4:00pm	Investment #1	Boardroom 2
4:00pm – 5:30pm	Finance #1	Conference Center A
5:30pm - 6:30pm	Board of Directors	Conference Center A
6:30pm – 7:00pm	Committee Chairs	Boardroom 1
7:00pm - 9:00pm	U.S. Aquatic Sports WELCOME RECEPTION by Risk Management Services, Inc.	RIVER DECK

THURSDAY, September 18, 2014

6:00am - 7:00am	Swim Practice	
	Dry land Workout	Conference Center B
7:00am - 8:00am	Women in Aquatics Breakfast (Please register USAS Registration desk)	Plaza Room
8:00am – 9:00am	House of Delegates #1	Conference Center A
	<i>Welcome Address, Convention Updates, Announcements</i>	
9:15am – 9:45am	New Delegate Orientation	Conference Center A
10:00am – 11:00am	Zone Meetings	
	Breadbasket	City Terrace 6
	Colonies	City Terrace 4
	Dixie	City Terrace 5
	Great Lakes	City Terrace 12
	Northwest	City Terrace 8
	Oceana	Plaza Room
	South Central	City Terrace 11
	Southwest	Grand Ballroom 5
11:00am – 12:00pm	Lunch	
12:00pm – 1:45pm	House of Delegates #2	Conference Center A
	<i>Slate of At Large Directors/Meet the Candidates</i>	
1:45pm – 3:15pm	Championship #1	City Terrace 12
2:00pm – 3:15pm	Long Distance #1	City Terrace 9
	Sports Medicine & Science	City Terrace 8
	History & Archives	Boardroom 2
3:30pm – 4:45pm	Open Water	City Terrace 7
	Fitness Education	City Terrace 8
	Finance #2	Boardroom 2
3:30pm – 5:00pm	LMSC Development	City Terrace 12
	Rules #1	City Terrace 9
5:30pm-6:30pm	Sports Medicine Presentation	Conference Center A
6:45pm – 7:45pm	Officials	City Terrace 12
	Registration	City Terrace 8
	Investment #2	Boardroom 2
6:45pm – 8:00pm	Recognition & Awards	City Terrace 9
	Legislation #1	City Terrace 7
8:00pm -	LMSC Social	Hospitality 4104

FRIDAY, September 19, 2014

6:00am - 7:00am	Swim Practice Dry land Workout	Conference Center B
8:00am – 9:15am	Long Distance Committee #2 Coaches Records & Tabulation Audit Foundation	City Terrace 9 City Terrace 7 City Terrace 4 City Terrace 6 Conference Center B
8:00am – 9:30am	Championship #2	City Terrace 12
9:30am - 10:30am	LMSC Workshop - A New Paradigm in Volunteering Risk Management Workshop Rules #2 Finance #3	City Terrace 10 City Terrace 8 City Terrace 9 Boardroom 1
10:45am - 11:45am	House of Delegates #3 <i>Elections & Awards</i>	Conference Center A
11:45am – 1:00pm	Lunch with New Delegates	
1:00pm - 2:15pm	Open Water Workshop LMSC Workshop - Managing a Budget LMSC Workshop - Bring Your Own Bylaws & Major Governing Documents (BYOB & MGD) USMS Governance/Leadership Presentation	Conference Center A City Terrace 10 City Terrace 8 City Terrace 5
2:30pm - 5:15pm	House of Delegates #4 <i>Finance Presentation</i> <i>Rules/Long Distance Forum</i> <i>Committee Reports</i>	Conference Center A
5:15pm - 5:30pm	BOD to approve the budget as amended	Conference Center A
6:00pm - 8:45pm	International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony Complimentary Tickets to USMS House of Delegates Members IMSHOF Reception – Cash Bar (6:00-6:45) IMSHOF Induction Ceremony (6:45-8:45)	 River Terrace 3 River Terrace 3

SATURDAY, September 20, 2014

6:00am-7:00am	Swim Practice Dry land Workout	Conference Center B
7:00am - 8:00am	Governance	Room 4106
8:00am - 9:00am	Finance #4 Legislation #2	Boardroom 1 City Terrace 12
8:00am – 9:15am	Rules #3	City Terrace 9
9:15am - 10:15am	House of Delegates #5 <i>Long Distance</i>	Conference Center A
10:30am – 11:30am	LMSC Development Workshop – Peer-to-Peer LIVE!	Conference Center A
11:30am – 1:00pm	Round Table Lunch	Conference Center A
1:00pm - 1:30pm	Rules #4 (USA Swimming)	City Terrace 12
1:30pm - 5:30pm	House of Delegates #6 <i>Championship Presentation</i> <i>Rules</i> <i>Budget</i> <i>Feedback Session</i> <i>Closing Remarks</i>	Conference Center A
7:00pm - 10:00 pm	AQUATICS AWARDS BANQUET	GRAND BALLROOM

SUNDAY, September 21, 2014

8:00am - 9:00am	United States Aquatic Sports Board of Trustees (USAS)	River Terrace 2
9:15am – 12:00pm	Board of Directors	River Terrace 1

MEMBER SERVICES—Est. 2009

Ensures delivery of USMS member benefits and provides year-round customer support to members and LMSCs.

- Training and support to LMSC leadership
- Online registration for members, clubs, and workout groups
- New membership products: coach recognition, 16-month membership, vanity IDs

22% INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP

2009-2013

RISK MANAGEMENT

In 2013, our insurance cost increased by **\$240,000**. Since then, we've hired an industry-leading risk management firm to help improve our risk management practices to protect and serve our constituents. New risk management programs include expanded insurance coverage, an online sanction database, an event compliance review, and a new waiver.

EDUCATION SERVICES—Est. 2012

Delivers our Masters Coach Certification, Adult Learn-to-Swim Instructor Certification, and club and coach outreach initiatives.

28%
club growth

1,587
MASTERS
COACHES CERTIFIED

305
club visits

Technique videos
and monthly Q&A

60,000

f t followers

MARKETING SERVICES—Est. 2010

Promotes the USMS brand through our sponsor-partner relationships and provides support to USMS championships and events. Members enjoy **EXCLUSIVE** sponsor-partner discounts.

\$300,000 in products and services
OVER **100,000** marketing pieces
provided to coaches, clubs,
and events

WHERE WE ARE INVESTING

Est. 2012



Our charitable giving arm that provides grants to programs that are encouraging adults to swim, and

provides grants for medical and research initiatives that reinforce the benefits of swimming.

“April Adult Learn-to-Swim Month” has created a new paradigm of volunteerism

1,500 have benefitted
ADULTS from lessons

\$65,000
in grant awards



6 issues SWIMMER MAGAZINE



30 STREAMLINES eNewsletter

EACH YEAR

940,000 visitors to usms.org

1,000,000+ views of Masters Swimming-produced videos.

Two prestigious
TELLY AWARDS

COMMUNICATIONS & PUBLICATIONS—Est. 2009

Authors and delivers Masters Swimming content through all our communication channels and publications.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS—Since 2012

LIFETIME

THE HEALTHY WAY OF LIFE COMPANY™

82 new clubs

IN-SHAPE
HEALTH CLUBS

70 new locations

RAY & JOAN
KROC
CORPS COMMUNITY CENTER

23 new locations

sport&health

14 new locations

the
Y

Leadership position
on expert panel



Marketing to
the youth

USMS Executive Committee Reports

President – Nadine Day

Thank you again for re-electing me as President of US Masters Swimming. It was my honor representing the USA in the FINA Masters Congress. Meeting Masters leadership around the world has been enlightening. USMS is so fortunate to have our incredible organization and professional staff. The opportunities our members have include an educated coach on deck and certified officials at competitions. I am especially proud and humbled by all the dedicated volunteers that make our organization successful.

As we gather together for our Annual Meeting; we need to remember and keep in mind why we are here. We approved the USMS Strategic Plan, which has guided us in our decision making. Now we must unite to achieve our common goals and make the strategic plan a reality.

This year the Board established four priorities including re-evaluating the goals and objectives of the Annual Meeting. At the Annual Meeting, the House of Delegates is responsible for elections, amend CODE and approve the annual budget.

The next priority was open water. The BOD/HOD decided to address the challenges associated with the financial impact of the insurance increase with open water and an open water task force was formed to determine the USMS business model for open water.

The third action item is to fulfill our fiduciary duties as Board of Directors and ensure that our constituents were educated on our five year business plan. The Board of Directors supports this business plan and recommends a two dollar dues increase that was approved by HOD last year. We have seen the benefits of investing in programs and services. We feel that this is good investment in our future.

The last issue that the Board wants to address is governance regarding education of the Board and other levels of leadership. We need to understand the roles and responsibilities of the BOD/HOD and LMSC officers to be efficient and effective leaders.

USMS Strategic Plan is our focus and drives the operations of the national office, national committees and LMSCs.

Thank you again for your dedication and sacrifice of both national and local levels of US Masters Swimming organization.

We are one team. The Number One Team

Vice President Administration – Ed Tsuzuki

While I have been on the USMS Board of Directors prior to this role for four years as the Vice President of Local Operations, my first year as Vice President of Administration has been a year full of new learnings for me. I am extremely fortunate to have such an experienced group of veteran volunteers as committee chairs leading the Championship, Legislation, Registration and Rules Committees. I have been amazed at the level of commitment and collaboration as well as the stunning depth of knowledge that these four committees have demonstrated throughout the year.

The **Championship Committee**, chaired by Jeff Roddin (vice chairs – Kim Crouch and Erin Shields) works tirelessly to ensure that the swimmers at the USMS national championship meets have an outstanding experience and also that the hosts are supported to deliver a high-quality event for all. Of course, their work gets extremely busy immediately before each (spring and summer) championship event, but they must also manage the bidding process for future events. The amount of detailed work that goes on behind the scenes in preparing for the next championships, as well as for those meets up to 2 years out is incredible. Jeff and his committee meticulously maintain exhaustive checklists and work to continuously improve each championship event.

The **Legislation Committee**, chaired by Meg Smath (vice chair – Sean Fitzgerald) considers proposed changes to Parts 2, 4, 5, and 6 of the rule book, as well as relevant changes to the Organizing Principles and Glossary. The

USMS Executive Committee Reports

committee considers changes submitted during odd-numbered years (emergency proposals in even-numbered years) so things have a bit quiet for Meg and her committee during 2014.

The **Registration Committee**, chaired by Leo Letendre (vice chairs – Susan Ehringer and George Simon), was active this year in testing and providing feedback during the conversion to the in-house registration system and advising on proposed membership options.

The **Rules Committee**, chaired by Kathy Casey (vice chair – Charlie Cockrell) has jurisdiction over Part 1 of the rule book and the glossary and since this is a “Rules year” (even-numbered years), Kathy and her august committee have been extremely busy considering proposed amendments. Sitting in on conference calls with this committee has been an eye-opener for me as I have been overwhelmed with the depth of knowledge the committee members possess on USMS, USA-S and FINA rules. As always, Kathy is extremely well-organized and chairs a very participative group of volunteers.

I am honored to continue to serve on the USMS leadership team. My first term as Vice President of Administration has been very educational thanks to all of the veterans and mentors I am fortunate to work with. It is extremely motivating to be engaged with so many passionate and hard-working volunteers. I would also like to acknowledge our equally passionate national office staff that, together with our volunteers, make an immensely productive team – team USMS!

Vice President of Local Operations – Chris Stevenson

The Local Operations division consists of four committees (Awards & Recognition, History & Archives, LMSC Development, Records & Tabulation). The Vice President of Local Operations, VPLO, is an *ex-officio* member of these four committees and also works with LMSC and Zone chairs on any local issues that might require the attention or advice of a board member. The past year has been a productive one for the four operations committees; their activities are summarized here but annual reports and meeting minutes should be consulted for more detail.

History and Archives, chaired by Meegan Wilson, continues to do very fine work on their tasks of collecting and preserving the history of the USMS organization. Their projects tend to be multi-year efforts such as finding, digitizing and consolidating paper documents such as older registration files, USMS record and Top 10 chronologies, and stories. They also generate stories for publication on the USMS web site.

The **LMSC Development Committee**, chaired by Paige Buehler, has had another busy year. They have organized an excellent series of peer-to-peer (P2P) teleconferences for different LMSC offices, giving volunteers across the country an opportunity to share ideas and best practices. Notes from these sessions have been generated and posted on the USMS Discussion Forums that were created to foster communication among LMSC volunteers. The committee also organized three training webinars and is in charge of organizing Convention training workshops. The committee collected and compiled information about LMSC performance relative to the LMSC Standards document that is maintained by the committee. The committee is in the process of reviewing the LMSC Standards document and policy. Zone chairs, who are members of the LMSC Development committee, were the main points of contact between the committee and the LMSCs.

Recognition and Awards, chaired by Ray Novitske, oversees the national service awards that are so valuable for underlining the very fine efforts of our volunteer base. The committee designed and implemented methods to increase solicitations and visibility of these awards. They coordinated the selection of the Ransom J. Arthur Award recipient Hill Carrow, who was honored at Spring Nationals. Work on other national awards continues, including those selected by other committees. The committee also collected information about awards that are given at the LMSC level, and reported increased local recognition compared to four years ago.

Records and Tabulation, chaired by Jeanne Seidler, continued its excellent supervision of Top 10 lists and USMS Records, as well as the list of measured/certified competition courses. The committee includes the National Swims and the USMS Records Administrators (Mary Beth Windrath and Walt Reid, respectively) among its members. The committee also continued to formulate, implement and publish policies related to these lists. The committee

USMS Executive Committee Reports

established an appeals policy for the Top 10 issues. The Guide to Operations and the committee's policy document were updated and published on the USMS website.

Vice President Programs – Chris McGiffin

The Programs committees are in the midst of another very productive year as they continue their efforts to support the USMS mission of delivering high-quality adult aquatic products and services.

Less than two months from the 2013 Convention, one of my first assignments as the newly elected Vice President of Programs, was to survey LMSC volunteer contacts (Chairs, Vice Chairs, Sanctions) to collect information regarding how the cost of the insurance surcharge was being managed at the local level. The feedback received covered 38 LMSCs (from 43 responses), and the data served to reveal the creative strategies and the budgetary challenges our volunteers experienced as they sought successfully or unsuccessfully to face the circumstances during the 2013 Open Water sanction season. It was a valuable exercise that set the tone for moving things forward in the direction of improving risk management and addressing how the open water product fits within our membership offerings.

The Long Distance Committee, chaired by Donn Livoni, set its sights on four committee goals this year above and beyond the ongoing work performed by its various sub-committees.

- ◆ To increase the number of qualified bids received for review for all of the Postal and Open Water National Championships.
 - 2016 Postal and OW NC bids are due by 7/15
 - New bidders, representation from all in-area regions
- ◆ To restructure the NC bid forms distribution and collection process to streamline the collection and compilation process for the LDC.
 - Complete
- ◆ Begin development of a multiple-day LD festival
 - Complete. Included with 2016 bid package.
- ◆ Increase participation in OW and Postal National Championship by 10%
POSTAL NC
2013 OHP = 2491 > 2014 = 2407
2013 5K/10K = 290 Event ends 9/15/14
2013 3000/6000 = 567 Event ends 11/15/14
2013 Total = 3274 (so + 327 or more in 2014)
OW NC
2013 Ft. Myers 5K = 118 2014 Elk Lake 5K (8/3) = 103 as of 7/26
2013 Las Vegas 10K = 66 2014 Lake George 10K (8/23) =
2013 Lake Del Valle 1mi = 290 2014 Lake Berryessa 1mi (6/7) = 270
2013 Lake Minnetonka 10mi - not held 2014 Lake Minnetonka 10mi (7/26) = 29
2013 Dana Point 2.4mi = 156 2014 Tennessee River 2.4mi (5/17)=127
2013 Lake Placid 2mi cable = 150 2014 Mirror Lake 2mi cable (8/14) =
2013 Total = 780 (so + 78 or more in 2014) 2014 Total =

One of the initial strategies employed by the committee was soliciting direct feedback from the USMS member community regarding Open Water National Championships. Led by the National Championship Bid Selection sub-committee, with support from the National Office, this effort helped the committee gain further insight into member preferences with the goal of proactively soliciting potential hosts for the Open Water National Championships based on the survey findings.

Additional priorities for the LDC in 2014 are:

- ◆ To continue to enhance the Club Assistant customized software for the Postal National Championships for improved efficiencies for both the event directors and for the LDC Committee.
- ◆ To update the tools utilized for the oversight and administration of the Postal and Open Water National Championships

USMS Executive Committee Reports

- ◆ To improve the publicity of the Postal and OW NCs (Publications Liaison working with L. Hamel)
- ◆ To create an orientation and mentoring program for the new committee members.
- ◆ Finish updating the Postal GTO

The following LDC sub-committees support other coordinated and ongoing efforts to maintain the internal processes that serve the organization and its members:

- Rules/Legislation - Bob Bruce (Chair), Rob Copeland, Lynn Hazelwood, Bruce Hopson, & Donn Livoni.
- Patches, All-Americans, Records, All-Stars (PARA) - Greta Van Meeteren (Chair), Denise Brown, Ali Hall, Robert Zeitner, Bruce Hopson, Phyllis Quinn, & Jill Wright.
- Safety - Bill Roach (Chair)
- Open Water Manual - Ann Svenson (Chair), Greta Van Meeteren, James Biles, Bob Bruce.
- Club Assistant - Susan Kirk (Chair)
- National Championship Bids - Susan Kirk, Ann Svenson, Ali Hall

The Officials Committee, led by Ed Saltzman (Chair) and Pat Baker (Vice Chair), established five goals for 2014.

- ◆ Complete refresh of Officials Section of the Guide to Operations (GTO) [OPEN as of 6/19]
- ◆ Refresh of the USA vs. USMS Rule Quick Reference Card [COMPLETE]
- ◆ Review of Section 103 of the 2014 Rule Book [by 7/1]
- ◆ Distribute 2014 USMS Rule changes to LMSC and LSC Officials Chairs as part of our continuing education efforts [COMPLETE]
- ◆ Succession planning for the position of national championship Administrative Referee/Official. [Herb S. is completing documentation for his position - to be reviewed at convention]

The Officials Committee continues to work closely with National Championship meet hosts, and is already reaching out to contacts to coordinate event coverage at San Antonio for 2015 SCY.

Ed Saltzman attended a USA Swimming Open Water Official Clinic in Fort Meyers, FL, and reported that USA Swimming, by comparison, emphasizes on-course officials and safety monitors. He expects to share the clinic materials with the OW and LD committee chairs for their reference.

For the 2014 Convention, Ed Saltzman is preparing a demonstration of the Pool Officials Certification course. The 2015 Officials Committee budget includes funding to cover the expenses of one (1) Official to represent USMS at the 2015 FINA Masters World Championships in Kazan, Russia.

The Open Water Committee, led by Lynn Hazelwood (Chair) and Rob Copeland (Vice Chair) organized its 2014 committee goals to align with the objectives of several ongoing initiatives.

- ◆ Committee Development - John Carlson
 - Goal: To energize others to contribute to committee activities.
- ◆ Safety - Jim Wheeler
 - Continue safety education projects and dissemination of safety information to event hosts including:
 - Revise OWGTO Part 2: Safety Guidelines to conform with recommendations of risk management
 - Look at the other outstanding safety issues and make recommendations on how to approach including: open water practice safety (done), potential implementation of Independent Safety Monitors (in process in rules subcommittee), implementation of Safety Observers on motorized boats (done), temperature collars (in process in rules subcommittee), safety checklists for sanctioning (done), differentiating between guidelines, recommendations and rules and when to use them.
 - Present Education Webinars (in process)
 - Revise Safety Objectives document to remove the appearance of regulations and emphasize the educational value of the document (reformatting complete—waiting risk management review)

USMS Executive Committee Reports

- ◆ OWGTO - Rob Copeland
 - Goal: Improve the usefulness of the OWGTO by defining presentation of information and updating sections as necessary including:
 - Put all OWGTO documents into a consistent format this year (done for all published and in process documents except for the Clinics Manual, which is published in its original form)
 - Ensure that necessary changes get incorporated into the appropriate documents (in process for published documents)
 - Define what information goes in which document including where we want duplication and where we need the information in only one place
 - Determine what will be part of rules, guidelines, and best practices.
 - Develop and implement Part 3: Officials Guidelines for the OWGTO (in process).
- ◆ Safety Director Education - Bill Roach [HOLD, pending the BOD OWTF findings]
 - Goal: Create and implement a SD rating program for training safety directors including:
 - Come up with a program that educates our safety directors
 - Ensure that the SDs watch the OWC webinars and read the OWGTO and pass a test based on that reading
 - Administer and keep track of people who have a current SD rating
 - Provide an identification card that says the SD has taken the course and passed the test.
- ◆ Rules & Legislation - Bob Bruce [Complete unless other topics come up for review]
 - Goal: Prepare Rules and Legislation proposals for HOD consideration at convention including:
 - Activate an OWC-LDC inter-committee subcommittee for rules and legislation
 - Propose rules that are going to be needed to support committee projects.
- ◆ Awards - Lynn Hazelwood [Two nominations received for Open Water Service Award by July 1; selection committee chose the winner by secret ballot]
 - Goal: Design and/or implement awards for USMS open water swimming including:
 - Manage OW Service Award (in process)
 - Complete the definitions of data needed for the ERDB (done)
 - Complete the definitions for an open water swimmer ranking system (done)
 - Complete the definitions for an open water swimmer challenge system for fitness swimmers (on hold until status of ERDB and ranking system determined).
- ◆ Swimmer Training - Renny Lynn Opdycke
 - Goal: Promote the development and participation in USMS open water clinics, camps and training programs including:
 - Update the clinic manual to make it current and make it a more comprehensive support document
 - Create more communication with event directors and encourage them to use the Swimmer Training subcommittee and the clinic manual as resources to include an open water clinic prior to their event (in process)
 - Create more communication with USMS teams around the country to increase open water training awareness and excitement for open water within USMS
 - Work to enhance the use of usms.org for open water swimmer development.

The Open Water Committee, under the direction of Jim Wheeler and in collaboration with the Coaches Committee, is preparing a 2014 Convention workshop on Swimming in Open Water Events (in process)

As of 7/13, Bill Roach reported that there are 56 approved Open Water event sanctions (with 2 applications pending approval). By comparison, in 2013, there were a total of 57 Sanctioned Open Water events.

In addition to the scheduled committee meetings, I organized periodic checkpoint calls with the USMS Programs committee chairs and vice chairs to review/discuss hot topics, committee goal progress, volunteer mentoring, and volunteer recognition.

USMS Executive Committee Reports

A lot has been accomplished in the first half of 2014, and I wish to express my thanks to the committee leaders and members who dedicate their time and efforts in support of the organization and its members. Thank you!!

Vice President Community Services – Jody Smith

USMS Executive Committee Reports

Treasurer – Phil Dodson

Financial condition:

Our financial condition is very healthy with unrestricted reserves in excess of \$2.2M, which cover 10 months of operating expenses, an all time high. Six months coverage is considered good. There are three major reasons for this unprecedented health:

- ◆ USMS is well managed in a fiscally conservative manner.
- ◆ Investment portfolio has grown nearly \$475k since its inception in February, 2011.
- ◆ We are in the middle of our dues increase program that was adopted to invest in programs and services under a secure financial foundation.

Budget challenges for 2015:

The membership has several budget challenges to evaluate and decide.

- ◆ There is a proposed deficit budget of nearly \$200K. This deficit is an investment in programs and services which will strategically benefit the organization's future. It does not risk the secure financial foundation we have build up: USMS reserves are more than sufficient to fund the deficit with coverage for 7 months of operating expenses projected to be in reserves at the end of 2015, budget for 2016 is expected to be at or near breakeven, and the dues increase plan provides long-term financial security to adopt these investments early.
- ◆ Another major budget challenge is evaluating and determining a fair allocation of membership's resources in support of Open Water (OW) events. Supplemental information on the nearly \$130,000 of direct OW costs will be included in the Budget. When evaluating and discussing these costs, we must remember that we are all one family with one mission. Therefore we need to balance the funding of OW costs fairly for the good of USMS, not just for the good of membership nor just for the good of OW.

Audit, Finance and Investment Committees:

Our Audit, Finance and Investment Committees continue to play significant roles in assisting the board with its fiduciary responsibilities. We have much to thank these volunteers for as their oversight of our assets contributes greatly to our organization's outstanding financial condition.

Our independent accounting firm conducts an annual audit, provides a management review letter and makes an annual presentation to the Board of Directors. I am pleased to report that for the second year in a row there were no reported deficiencies by our auditor. USMS 2013 audited financial report received an unmodified opinion from our auditors. Copy of the report can be found at http://www.usms.org/admin/policies/content/finance_policies . Both are a direct reflection on our Chief Financial Officer, Susan Kuhlman. We have much to thank her for in her role as the chief financial steward of our organization. When you see her, give her a pat on the back and a hand shake of thanks.

I'm honored to serve as the USMS Treasurer.

Secretary – Chris Colburn

“You, sir, have a thankless job.” This quote struck me as interesting for a number of reasons. My initial reaction was not the expected response: “But I have lots of people to thank!” Thanks are definitely due to the USMS House of Delegates, who elected me Secretary. I would also like to thank the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors for their patience and assistance as I learned the roles and responsibilities of the Secretary this past year. I'd also like to recognize all of the committee chairs, staff members, and volunteers with whom I work regularly to ensure that accurate minutes of all our meetings are posted on the USMS website. Most importantly, I'd like to thank former

USMS Executive Committee Reports

USMS Secretaries CJ Rushman, Meg Smath, and Betsy Durrant for the benefit of their wisdom and advice over the past year.

Based on what these and other veterans have told me, this year has been a typical one for the USMS Secretary. Following my transition into the role, I recorded minutes for the Board and the Executive Committee at all of their meetings, and posted the approved documents on the website. I worked with committee chairs to ensure that their meeting minutes were also posted on the USMS website. I have communicated with the National Office to ensure that Convention and Board meeting materials were prepared as needed for our meetings throughout the year. Finally, I have executed documents as requested by the business in my role as corporate Secretary.

In closing, I have enjoyed my first year as USMS Secretary. I look forward to a successful Convention, as well as to a great second year of my term. Thanks again to everyone who has helped me both to succeed in this role and to give back to the organization that has done so much for so many of us over the last four decades.

Legal Counsel – Patty Miller

When I first became USMS's Legal Counsel in 2002, USMS had 38,000 members, a few hundred clubs and sanctioned events, one employee, and a "national office" out of Tracy Grilli's home in New Hampshire. The legal work for USMS primarily consisted of reviewing sponsor and licensee contracts, participating on the Executive Committee, advising about changes in USMS rules, and occasionally word-smithing meeting minutes.

Today, USMS has 60,000 members; 1,500 clubs and workout groups; 500 sanctioned events; an annual budget of \$3 million; 12 employees and several contractors; a permanent headquarters in a leased municipality building; myriad communications vehicles, including a self-produced magazine, a website, social media, and multiple electronic newsletters; an in-house member registration system; on-line event registration; an active charitable giving arm; an increased focus on risk management; and a growing national and international presence.

This change in size and complexity is exciting for USMS. It means that the organization is investing in its mission to promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming. It is also in line with our current strategic plan and its pillars focused on supporting our volunteers, enhancing membership value, strengthening the USMS brand in targeted markets, and activating partnerships.

But it also means that the legal needs of USMS have grown tremendously. To date, I have been able to address USMS's legal needs in the volunteer role of Legal Counsel, supplemented by the assistance of USMS members who have generously provided *pro bono* legal advice in specialized areas. But this model needs to evolve.

This year, for the first time, USMS requested proposals and engaged an outside counsel firm to supplement the legal services provided by volunteers. We sought a firm that could provide legal support particularly in the areas of non-profit law, employment law, contracts, real estate, intellectual property, and insurance. We are pleased to have engaged the firm of Blalock Walters, which has offices in Sarasota, Bradenton, and St. Petersburg, Florida. We were most impressed by Blalock's expertise in non-profit representation, employment and real estate/leasing. You will see an increased amount for outside counsel fees proposed for the 2015 budget. The amount budgeted is relatively small in comparison to the cost of legal services. We will continue to rely upon volunteer services where possible and use outside counsel strategically.



Strategic Plan Summary

September, 2011

I. Mission

To promote health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming

II. Vision Statement

USMS will be the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the United States and will make fitness through swimming available for as many adults as possible

III. Values

- We value HEALTH AND FITNESS, constantly challenging ourselves to achieve, in competition and in accomplishing our own goals.
- We value RESPECT for our teammates, competitors, coaches, employees, and volunteers.
- We value FUN, enjoying camaraderie with our fellow swimmers and embracing swimming as a joyful and satisfying avocation.
- We value LEARNING through coaching, programs, and communication.
- We value EXCELLENCE in safety, education, innovation, performance, leadership, and the provision of services and programs.

IV. Strategies

- Enhance the volunteer experience and improve volunteer performance through role clarity, training, recognition, and recruitment.
- Create and enhance membership value through expanded and improved USMS products, services and delivery infrastructure.
- Increase awareness of and strengthen the U.S. Masters Swimming brand and image in targeted markets.
- Engage and activate partnerships with organizations that align with the USMS mission, vision and values, for the purpose of increasing benefits to our members, enhancing and expanding the USMS brand, building USMS membership and improving access to swimming facilities.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Championship

Committee Members

Jeff Roddin, Chair; Kim Crouch, Vice Chair; Erin Shields, Vice Chair

Tyler Blessing, Debbie Cavanaugh, Jim Clemmons, Barry Fasbender, Don Gilchrist, Jack Groselle, Robert Heath, Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Patty Nardozi, Sandi Rousseau, Ed Saltzman, Jeff Strahota, Charlie Tupitza, Lisa Watson, Jillian Wilkins.

Ex-Officio: Tom Boak, Kyle Deery, Jane Moore

Executive Committee Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki

Introduction

Our mission is to serve in an advisory capacity to national championship hosts and make recommendations and decisions that enhance the quality of championship meets for all registered U.S. Masters Swimming members; to actively solicit and receive bid proposals, review bids and select the sites for national championship meets; and support marketing opportunities for U.S. Masters Swimming Corporate Partners.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Established Local and Regional Club classifications for 2014 USMS clubs
2. Removed requirement to require split books at Nationals due to online availability
3. Reviewed financial reports for past Nationals to ensure better consistency
4. Reviewed Nationals entry fee structure (no changes made)
5. Reviewed EMT coverage requirements at Nationals (no changes necessary at this time)
6. Discussed Coaches Hospitality policy to further restrict eligible club coaches to only USMS Recognized coaches (no changes made)
7. Discussed feasibility of coaches being able to sign up for Nationals as coaches (enabling them to receive pre-event notices, be able to sign up for items such as social, shuttle, Gold Medal, merchandise, etc.)
8. Discussed service animal policy at Nationals
9. Updated bid application and sample budget and converted entire bid package to be online
10. Updated meet contracts (re-evaluated bonus criteria and clarified merchandise options) and sent contracts to 2015 hosts
11. Assigned liaisons for 2015 Nationals (Kim Crouch and Tom Boak for San Antonio and Jack Groselle and Jeff Roddin for SPIRE)
12. Approved logos for 2015 hosts
13. Updated Meet Liaison Guidelines and Meet Director's Guide
14. Changed final results mailing policy to have the National Office do this instead of hosts (fees now go to USMS); updated contracts and the Meet Director's Guide and submitted rules proposal to effect this change
15. Discussed changing club scoring policy for Regional Clubs from Top 10 to Top 5
16. Discussed new warm-up hours on distance day policy at Nationals
17. Discussed shortening the entry deadline at Nationals from 35 days prior to the meet to include one more weekend and set it on that Monday instead
18. Discussed removing the Order of Events from the rulebook and instead making this task part of Championship policy (submitted Rules proposal)
19. Discussed changing allowable dates of Long Course Nationals from 8/1-9/15 to 7/15-8/31 (submitted Rules proposal)
20. Discussed changing the bid deadline from July 1 to June 1 (submitted Rules proposal)
21. Submitted rules proposals to remove postmark deadlines, mention of a banquet and requiring the use of a computer to process data at Nationals since these items are antiquated
22. Evaluated past results at Nationals with respect to NQTs and how they may affect the session timelines
23. Discussed posting the pre-event email newsletters to USMS.org so coaches and other can see them and not just registered swimmers

Action Items

24. Update Championship Committee Policy document
25. Update and publish the Meet Director's Guide for 2015 hosts
26. Evaluate alternative Order of Events for 2015 Spring Nationals (San Antonio)
27. Assign 2016 liaisons
28. Pursue hold harmless agreement for service animal owners to sign at Nationals
29. Discuss online relay entry feasibility for Nationals

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

30. Discuss change to Regional Club scoring policy
31. Discuss change to Coaches Hospitality policy
32. Discuss online registration feasibility for Coaches
33. Review distance day warm-up policy
34. Review Nationals entry deadline

Championship Committee Agenda Meeting #1 - Thursday 1:45-3:15pm – City Terrace 12

1. Approve Minutes from last meeting(s) as required
2. Recap/debrief 2014 Nationals:
 - A. Santa Clara (Short Course)
 - B. University of Maryland (Long Course)
3. Review/discuss status and planning and approve awards for 2015 Nationals:
 - A. San Antonio (Short Course, April 23-26)
 - B. SPIRE (Long Course, August 6-9)
4. Review/discuss any proposed Legislation/Rules changes that affect Championship Committee (Articles 103/104)
5. NQT's
 - A. Review NQT study (Jillian)
 - B. 2016 Nationals

Meeting #2 – Friday 8:00-9:30am – City Terrace 12

1. 2016 Championship Bids
2. USMS Website Schedule Proposal
 - A. Add listing to Calendar of Events by October 1 (soon after selection)
 - B. Initiate meet landing page (facility links, Order of Events and NQTs) no later than October 15 and January 15 for the upcoming Spring and Summer Nationals, resp.
 - C. Post official Meet Information no later than January 1 and May 1 for the upcoming Spring and Summer Nationals, resp. (coincides with SWIMMER mailing)
 - D. Online entries available no later than February 15 and May 15 for the upcoming Spring and Summer Nationals, resp. (contingent upon host being timely with add-on details)
3. Nationals procedures/activities:
 - A. Service animal policy
 - B. Entry deadline
 - C. Distance day warm-ups
 - D. Online registration for coaches
 - E. Coaches hospitality policy
 - F. Deck seeding/positive check-in policies
 - G. Entrant list (make available prior to entry deadline or not)
 - H. Event Sponsors (add to online entry system?)
 - I. Other
4. Goals/Tasks for 2015
 - A. Online relay entries
 - B. Sixth Event policy – explore alternatives
 - C. Liability waivers

Championship Presentation - Saturday 1:30-2:00pm – Conference Center A

1. 2016 Championship Selections' Presentations to the HOD

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Coaches

Committee Members

Scott Bay, Chair; Cokie Lepinski, Vice Chair

Ken Brisbin, Chris Campbell, Brian Cummings, Matthew Edde, Marty Hendrick, Heather Howland, Bob Jennings, Kimberly Lloyd, Katherine Longwell, Erin Matthews, Sue Nutty, Kerry O'Brien, Dustin Poe, Jillian Wilkins

Ex-Officio: Bill Brenner, CJ Rushman

Executive Committee Liaison – Jody Smith

Top Three Priorities

1. **Certification/coaches education**
2. **USMS World Clinic**
3. **Publications**

Certification/Coaches Education:

- Level 4 is done and was launched in Early 2014. First application window closes(ed) July 15 and there were 8 applicants with 2 being highly qualified and the rest being asked to provide more documentation. This is requested by Aug 15 or they can resubmit without additional fee for next cycle which is early 2015.
- Coaches evaluating applications are Jim Miller, Stu Kahn, Cokie Lepinski, Emmett (Peggy) Hines, and Kerry O'Brien.
- Scoring guide is very robust and there will be some refinements to the submission process based on this initial effort..
- We are working with other committees and the national office to develop other educational opportunities outside of certification clinics.

Masters World Clinic:

- One of the anticipated factors in bringing our certification program in house was the need to also provide Masters Coaches with educational opportunities outside of regular certification clinics. These both enhance professional knowledge and lead to higher levels of certification.
- According to Club and Coach Services, there is a much higher retention rate in clubs with a certified coach.
- Providing opportunities for those coaches to continue to learn is a priority
- Logistically, a USMS World Clinic can wrap around convention or be a stand alone program.
- The goal is to make it as budget neutral as possible while recognizing that coaches are a driving factor in the growth of the organization so it may be an investment rather than a profit center.

Publications:

- The National Office publications continue to be fully provided for and have articles to select from based on theme and content for several months out. We are very proud of our working relationship led by Cokie.
- The majority of committee members have submitted at least one article with many submitting more than one.
- Several committee members have solicited members of other committees or the larger USMS population to contribute as well.

LMSC Communications:

- We have begun pushing our coaches committee meeting minutes out to coaches' chairs.
- We have created and distributed a survey to coaches chair to solicit feedback for what coaches chairs would like to see from our committee
- We are currently following up with suggestion on some of the feedback and looking at feasibility

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

International Coaches:

- Montreal will see a large number of participants from USMS. We are working on an impartial evaluation from members attending that are not members of the coaches committee so we can focus our efforts in the best way possible for Kazan in 2015.
- Used suggestions to help modify our international coaches program and amend the budget to accommodate those changes based on reasonable and customary travel expenses.
- Planning for the 2015 Worlds in Russia

Online Coaches:

- Selected all of our 2014 coaches on time and secured agreements
- Monitoring metrics and looking at possible future offerings

On Deck Coaching:

- Continued using the new sign up method online
- Had fully staffed Spring Nationals and are on track to do the same for summer
- Programming and coordinating workouts for Convention to include stroke/start/turn instruction as well as incorporating a fitness themed workout and an open water component as part of a collaborative effort with Sports Medicine and Science Committee.
- Providing dryland instruction at the hotel at convention in conjunction with Sports Medicine and Science Committee
- Designed, ordered and delivered shirts to venues making on deck coaches easy to identify

High Performance:

- Selected coaches and coordinated with host.
- Created a succession plan to continue the program from year to year that provides continuity and fresh coaching

Awards:

- Collaborated with Recognition and Awards Committee on how to raise the profile and enhance the number of applicants
- Coordinated and selected COTY and KOB Awards

Other Activities:

- Collaborated with the National office to develop a Recognized Coaches Membership outside of certification. To date there are over 1000 recognized coaches generating additional revenue of over \$30k.
- Collaborated with Championship Committee to refine our hospitality policy for coaches at Nationals. Working with them also on ensuring we have consistent safety coverage for all of our national events.

Coaches Committee Agenda

Friday 8:00am – 9:15am – City Terrace 7

1. Chair Welcome- Scott scottbay@usms.org
2. Review of 2014
3. Goals for 2015
4. Subcommittee and Task Force Summaries
 - a. Certification-
 - b. International Coaching-
 - c. Awards-
 - d. Publications-

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- e. Communications-
- f. High Performance-
- g. Web Workouts-
 - 1. 2015 Coaching Subgroups
- h. On Deck/Convention-
- 5. Old Business-
- 6. New Business-

Fitness

Committee Members:

Marcia Anziano, Chair, Linda Shoenberger, Vice Chair

Andrea Block, Pam Dameron, Suzi Green, Ali Hall, Lisa Hiller, Bob Jennings, Mary Jurey, Kay Miller, Leslie Scott, Greta VanMeeteren, Robin Walker, Tricia Wallace-Lilleberg

Executive Committee Liaison: Jody Smith

Introduction: The committee continues to support Go The Distance, but as in the past few years, the majority of this activity is now handled by the National Office. We focused this year on obtaining nominees for the Fitness Award as it has not been awarded the past couple of years. And we also focused on securing bids for the Check off Challenge. We continue to keep up communication with the LMSCs through our monthly newsletter to the local Fitness Chairs. And we will be working to again have a successful Fitness workout (with assistance from the Coaches Committee) and host another Brown Bag lunch at convention.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Check off Challenge: Unfortunately we had no bids for the 2014 Check Off Challenge. However, at the convention, Masters of South Texas stepped up and offered to host the event. Robin Walker has served as liaison this year for this event and has been working very hard to secure bids for 2015. To date, none have been submitted but we are hopeful that this will be temporary as we have received inquiries from two groups asking about the details. Under Robin's guidance, we have worked to advertise this event and tried to get the info out to coaches that might be interested in using it as a fund raising project. We have suggested that they try other items onto which the participant records their swims as we feel that people may just not want to purchase another t-shirt. With any luck we will have bids to review at the convention.

Go the Distance: Go the Distance, 100% driven by the Fitness Logs (FLOGS) and supported by Nike, continues to grow. The major support for this event is the National Office. At this point in time, 10,953 swimmers are using the flogs compared to 8898 last year, and 6812 swimmers in 2012. However, of note, only 3987 are participating in Go the Distance this year, as opposed to 5225 who were participating at this time last year, which was up from 3132 in 2012. On a percentage basis, of those with flogs, only 36% are participating in GTD this year, vs. 58% last year, and 45% the prior year. Suzi Green continues to write small articles on the various participants, however, they no longer appear monthly but are used when the publications see the need.

Fitness Chair Newsletter: Ali Hall continues as our Fitness Chair Newsletter Coordinator. In this position, Ali writes periodic emails to all LMSC Fitness Chairs. She focuses on fitness activities that are supported at the LMSC level in an attempt to get more attention to the Fitness swimmer at the local level. She solicits ideas for new programs and shares the ideas submitted by the various LMSCs. This is also used to advertise both the Fitness Award and the bidding process for the Check Off Challenge.

Presence at Convention: As in the past two years, a Fitness workout will again be offered by the Coaches at the Convention. In addition, the brown bag lunch will be held again, this year being facilitated by Suzi Green and Leslie Scott.

Fitness Award: We received multiple nominations for the award this year, it will be presented at the convention.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Fitness Committee Agenda Thursday 3:30pm – 4:45 pm – City Terrace 8

1. Introductions
2. Check Off Challenge – review any bids that are presented. Discuss ways to better attract bidders – including using the zones to help support it.
3. Fitness Award – discuss the success as to receiving bids and evaluate the methods used to advertise it.
4. GTD – discuss the drop in participation and ideas on how to get better participation
5. Responsibilities for 2015 – to be assigned.
6. Ideas for new activities.

History and Archives

Committee Members

Meegan Wilson, Chair; Barbara Dunbar, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Vice Chairs
John Bauman, Peggy Buchannan, Trisha Commons, Paul Hutinger, Kim Lloyd, Mike McDonnell, Susan Nolte, Gail Roper, Frank (Skip) Thompson, Steve White
Ex Officio: Anna Lea Matysek
Executive Committee Liaison: Chris Stevenson

Introduction

The USMS History and Archives Committee was formed to help document and preserve USMS history as stated in the USMS Rule Book, article **507.1.4** --*The History and Archives Committee shall record, collect and preserve documents, stories, photos, exhibits, oral histories and other memorabilia in an appropriate repository and in durable formats to ensure that the achievements of USMS and Masters swimmers will be maintained for posterity. The archived information shall be made available.*

The History and Archives Committee (H&A) has been working very hard to accomplish these goals. Due to the enormous amount of time it takes to locate, scan, digitize and preserve USMS history, most of our projects are ongoing throughout the year and continue from one year to the next. USMS historical data are stored at the International Swimming Hall Of Fame (ISHOF) Henning Library, on the USMS website and on USMS volunteers' computers.

The USMS History and Archives Committee requests that before members discard historical USMS documents such as early registration files, National Open Water and Postal Meet results, etc. please consider donating them to the USMS History and Archives Committee for archival purposes. As more historical donations are located they will be preserved at the Henning Library and/or used to help identify swimmers in the old National Top Ten list and posted on the appropriate USMS pages. We also ask that local LMSCs maintain, document, and archive their history on their local websites.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The Top Ten Relay Project is making progress in reaching our goal to put National Top Ten Relay results prior to 1998 on the USMS website. Work is currently being done on digitizing 1987 relay top ten and supplying missing IDs for the years 1989-1992 in collaboration with Walt Reid and the Records & Tabulation Committee.
2. The arduous task of researching and digitizing USMS registration files through 1988 has been completed, and work is now being done on the 1987 files. So far, 1,775 names have been added.
3. Researching and documenting early National Relay Record Chronology is in progress.
4. Efforts continue to locate and identify swimmers listed in the 1970 – 1992 USMS Top Ten Times, whose permanent IDs are missing. The list can be found at: http://www.usms.org/hist/tt_swimmers_no_id.pdf
5. Locating, scanning and preparing pre-1998 Open Water and Postal National Championship results for posting on the website is ongoing. Needed missing results can be found at: http://www.usms.org/hist/missing_id-ow_results_1974_1991.pdf
6. Work continues on locating and scanning missing, previously published Top Ten booklets for posting on the USMS website where current Top Ten booklets are posted by the Records and Tabulation Committee for member access. They can be found at: <http://www.usms.org/content/top10print>
7. Swim-Master publications continue to be scanned into pdf files for eventual posting on the USMS website.
8. The review of the History and Archives section on the web to locate errors and omissions continues. H&A sends requests for corrections to the National Office. The H&A Committee would appreciate notification of any errors or needed corrections to swimmer's profile pages. Each swimmer can locate their profile page by adding the last

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

five characters of their registration number (the permanent ID portion) to this url.

<http://www.usms.org/people/XXXXX> (replace the Xs with your Swimmer ID).

9. Work continues on receiving, editing, writing and sending stories for eventual posting to the web by the National Office.
10. Maintenance and updates are ongoing for the list of Masters who are also Olympians, found at <http://www.usms.org/hist/oly/>.
11. A list of over 1000 names of USMS members that are deceased is being maintained and updated.

History and Archives Committee Agenda

Thursday 2:00pm – 3:15pm Boardroom 2

1. Call History & Archive Meeting to Order, Sept. 18, 2014, Thursday, 2-3:15 pm
2. Roll Call - Meegan Wilson (C), Barbara Dunbar (VC), Cheryl Gettelfinger (VC), John Bauman, Peggy Buchannan, Trisha Commons,, Paul Hutinger, Kim Lloyd, Mike McDonnell, Susan Nolte, Gail Roper, Frank (Skip) Thompson, Steve White, Anna Lea Matysek, (Ex Officio) and Chris Stevenson (VPLO)
3. Introduce and welcome new delegates.
4. Discuss the status of current projects.
5. Discuss other web projects, time lines, and priorities.
6. Discussion on the potential move of ISHOF and the Henning Library from Ft Lauderdale.
7. Adjourn

Legislation

Committee Members

Meg Smath, Chair; Sean Fitzgerald, Vice Chair

Brian Albright, Joan Alexander, Marcia Anziano, Rob Copeland, Daniel Cox, Barbara Delanois, Richard Garza, Mary Hull, Arni Litt, Debbie Morrin-Nordlund (deceased), Heather Stevenson, Erin Sullivan, Frank (Skip) Thompson

Ex-Officio: Kathrine Casey, Susan Ehringer, Patty Miller, Anna Lea Matysek

Executive Committee Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki

Introduction

The Legislation Committee considers proposed changes to Parts 2, 4, 5, and 6, as well as relevant changes to the Organizing Principles and Glossary. The committee considers all changes submitted to it in odd-numbered years, but only emergency proposals in even-numbered years. As such, this has been an “off” year for Legislation, with little official business.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee discussed emergency legislation proposed by the Board of Directors to amend article 203.3.3 giving the Board of Directors authority to levy the insurance surcharge for open water events in 2014.
2. The committee agreed to further discuss the events leading to the necessity of the above amendment to determine if there is a better way to proceed in the future.

Action Items

1. The committee voted in favor of giving its consent to the emergency legislation proposed by the Board of Directors.

Legislation Committee Agenda

Meeting #1 Thursday 6:45pm – 8:00pm - City Terrace 7

Meeting #2 Saturday 8:00am – 9:00am – City Terrace 12

1. Introductions
2. Determine whether submitted proposals are emergencies
3. Discuss any proposals deemed emergencies, and vote to approve or disapprove
4. Discuss future solutions in regard to article 203.3.3
5. Other business

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

LMSC Development

Committee Members

Paige Buehler, Chair; Tom Moore, Vice Chair

Tyler Blessing, Jerry Clark, Daniel Cox, Leianne Crittenden, Randy Crutchfield, Matt Hooper, Mary Hull, Michael Moore, Lynn Morrison, Lori Payne, Jeff Strahota, Erin Sullivan, Tim Waud

Executive Committee Liaison: Chris Stevenson

Introduction

The LMSC Development Committee is responsible for managing LMSC boundaries, managing the LMSC standards list and publishing an annual standards scorecard for each LMSC. The committee fosters communication across all LMSCs and LMSC volunteer roles by providing

- online discussion forums for posting questions
- peer-to-peer teleconferences for interactive discussion of issues
- outreach and mentoring through the zone chairs, and
- educational seminars and workshops on selected topics, and
- recommended “best” practices.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. **Peer-to-Peer (P2P) Teleconferences:** Since the last convention report the Mentoring subcommittee has organized, advertised and facilitated seven P2P teleconferences: LMSC Chairs, Coaches Chairs, Open Water Chairs/Event Directors, Officials Chairs, Secretaries, and Communications-Editors-Webmasters. This monthly event has been quite well received and reasonably well attended with good information being shared among the attendees. Notes from each session are posted to the most appropriate USMS Discussion Forum (see below) and used to document recommended practices.
2. **Discussion Forums:** Discussion on the forums has been light but there have been lots of views. The committee is still working on generating content and encouraging additional discourse and comments from the LMSC volunteers. The forums can be found as follows:

In the “USMS Administration” section under “LMSC Administration”

1. **Treasurer Forum** / *Finance Practices*
2. **Secretary Forum** / *Governance Practices*
3. **Chair & Vice Chair Forum** / *Volunteer Practices* (recruiting new volunteers, helping volunteers work together effectively, etc) & *Membership Practices* (member satisfaction, outreach to new types of members, etc)
4. **Communications Chair & Webmaster Forum** / *Communication Practices*
5. **Fitness Chair Forum** / *Fitness Event Practices*
6. **Sanctions Chair Forum** / *Pool Competition Practices & Open Water Competition Practices*
7. **Meet Directors Forum** / *Pool Competition Practices*
8. **Open Water Event Directors Forum** / *Open Water Competition Practices*
9. **Top 10 Recorder Forum** / *Top Times Practices*
10. **Registrar Forum** / *Registration Practices* (including welcoming new members, etc.) [**CLOSED-only for registrars**]

In the “USMS Administration” section under “Officials & Officiating”

11. **Officials Chair Forum** / *Pool Competition Practices*

In the “General” section under “Coaching”

12. **Coaches Chair Forum** / *Team & Training Practices*
1. **LMSC Performance Evaluation against LMSC Standards:** The Practices and Standards Subcommittee is on track with the 2014 goal of fully evaluating how LMSCs are doing in meeting all 45 required standards. A survey of 25 questions was sent to LMSC Chairs in April. Other questions were asked of the National

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- Office and Top Ten Administration to use data from the systems of record or information already submitted to evaluate the balance of the standards. Preliminary data was sent to the LMSCs on June 16th & 17th with the request to confirm the results by July 15th. As of late June, four LMSCs had not responded to the survey. Final results will be shared with the Board of Directors and covered briefly in the LMSC Development Committee meeting at convention. The areas in which LMSC were least successful serve as the focus areas for mentoring.
2. **Reviewing the LMSC Standards Policy:** The last full review of the policy was in 2011-2012. Changes in processes, especially in registration, merit another full look at the existing policy. When preliminary data was sent out, LMSC Chairs were invited to submit proposals to the LMSC Standards policy. The committee intends to review proposals at its July meeting and discuss them at its annual meeting with audience input.
 3. **LMSC Mentoring:** Lynn Morrison stepped up to lead the Mentoring subcommittee, comprised largely of the Zone Chairs, in continuing outreach with all the LMSCs and coordinating the Peer-to-Peer teleconferences. The Zone Chairs are actively working with the LMSCs to determine any changes to their performance against LMSC required standards during the preliminary data review period. The subcommittee continued to assess the policy on financial assistance for LMSCs to send delegates to convention.
 4. **Webinars:** The Education subcommittee, under Tim Waud's guidance, organized two workshops so far in 2014. In early January Chris Stevenson held a webinar jokingly called "Forums for Dummies" to show LMSC volunteers how to navigate, post to, subscribe to, and generally use the forums. It was attended by over 25 people. The subcommittee also contracted with JFFixler, a leader in volunteer engagement research and training, to create a webinar especially for LMSC volunteers called "Generational Trends and Issues in Volunteer Engagement." The webinar was presented once in May (~8 attendees) and again in June (~25 attendees).
 5. **Convention Workshops:** In addition to the four 60-75 minute workshops on Friday, the LMSC Development Committee will facilitate another peer-to-peer conversation similar to that held in 2012. It will be held on Saturday after the HOD session before lunch.
 6. **Recommended Practices:** Progress on documenting recommended practices is going slowly but we have a start with templates and owners and content being generated each month with P2Ps and webinars. We hope to have many of the recommended practice documents posted to the Guide to Operations area of usms.org by year end (if not by mid-September.) The committee is focusing on the following 11 Practice Areas:
 1. **Registration Practices** (including welcoming new members, etc) / Registrar
 2. **Finance Practices** / Treasurer
 3. **Governance Practices** / Secretary
 4. **Volunteer Practices** (recruiting new volunteers, helping volunteers work together effectively, etc) / Chair & Vice Chair
 5. **Membership Practices** (member satisfaction, outreach to new types of members, etc) / Chair & Vice Chair
 6. **Communication Practices** / Communications Chair & Webmaster
 7. **Team & Training Practices** / Coaches Chair
 8. **Fitness Event Practices** / Fitness Chair
 9. **Pool Competition Practices** / Sanctions Chair & Officials Chair & Meet Directors
 10. **Open Water Competition Practices** / Sanctions Chair & Open Water Event Directors
 11. **Top Times Practices** / Top 10 Recorder

The P&S subcommittee is actively seeking volunteers to serve as "point person" in each area to serve as a conduit for more information coming from USMS committees and high functioning LMSCs.

Action Items

1. Approved meeting minutes from 11/17/13, 1/19/14, 3/16/14, 5/21/14.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

LMSC Development Committee Agenda Thursday 3:30pm – 5:00pm – City Terrace 12

1. Introductions
2. Approve July meeting minutes and/or review offline decisions
3. Dispute Resolution Procedures discussion
4. Mentoring subcommittee report
5. Education subcommittee report
6. Practices & Standards subcommittee report
7. Recommended Practices project – next steps
8. Practice Point Volunteers
9. Performance Evaluation against LMSC Standards
10. LMSC Standards policy – review proposed changes to recommend to Board
11. 2014 goals/objectives review & scoring
12. 2015 goals/objectives setting
13. Define scope of LMSC Standards Performance Evaluation for 2015
14. Review action items & Adjourn

Long Distance

Committee Members:

Donn Livoni, Chair,

Bob Bruce, James Biles, Ali Hall, Bruce Hopson, Colleen Driscoll, Rob Copeland, Susan Kirk, Denise Brown, Phyllis Quinn, Dick Sidner, Ann Svenson, Greta Van Meeteren, Jill Wright, Robert Zeitner, Ex O: Susan Ehringer, Ex O: Lynn Hazlewood,

Ex Officio: Bill Roach

Executive Committee Liaison: Chris McGiffin

Introduction: In 2014, the Long Distance Committee continued working closely with National Championship event hosts, ensuring the success of six Open Water and five Postal USMS National Championships. In addition, the LDC supports and enforces Part 3 of the USMS Rule Book, keeps the manuals and guidelines as up-to-date as possible, recognizes All Americans and All Stars, and develops new programs to help ensure the success of our events.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. **Rules & Legislation** – The LDC has undertaken an exhaustive process to make the open water and pool postal rules friendly and inviting to participants while at the same time up holding the clarity, integrity and spirit of clearly written rules. The LDC has had significant cooperation, inputs, and proposed legislation from the Open Water Committee in furtherance of USMS open water swimming growth and development. In 2014, many changes have been proposed and are under consideration by the LDC.
2. **Postal National Championships**
 - The *One Hour Postal (OHP) USMS National Championship* had over 2,400 entries. The host, Indy Swim Fit, did an outstanding job. Results and awards were calculated quickly and accurately using Club Assistant's software.
 - The USMS *5K/10K Postal Championships* are currently underway at the time of this report, and the *3000/6000 Yard Postal Championship* forms and online entries were ready to go three months in advance of the Sept 15th start date.
 - Club Assistant's online entry and reporting processes have really helped the hosts and the Long Distance Committee to quickly and accurately facilitate the event entries, verifications, financials, and results.
 - Our liaisons provide pre-event support and post-event consultation to the event hosts and directors. They help the hosts manage the timelines, edit their entry forms, get up and running on the online entry system, create results, etc.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- Future: We have standardized all entry forms (both paper and online) and will continue to improve the forms. Starting with the 5K/10K, all postal entries will be available online, with a new name of ePostal.
3. **Open Water National Championships –**
- The LDC has improved its coordination with all six event hosts to ensure adequate event and safety pre-planning and operational readiness, post-event results reporting, and championship awards distribution. Likewise, the LDC coordinates with the USMS National Office staff for the supply of banners, USMS goodies and USMS Sponsor donations.
 - Our liaisons provide pre-event support and post-event consultation to the event hosts and directors. They help the hosts manage the timelines, edit their entry forms, get up and running on the online entry system, create results, etc. The idea is to bring USMS closer to the event hosts without getting in their way, and to begin to create a consistent look and feel of USMS- sanctioned championship hosted events (recognizing, of course, that each open water venue is unique and will continue to be that way).
 - All six open water national championships are required to use an online entry service. Our committee has noticed that results are far more accurate than ever before, and are rarely, if ever, corrected by the swimmers!
 - Future:
 1. We are improving the LDC event liaisons involvement and consultation with event hosts.
 2. USMS Sponsors have contributed to the ‘goodie’ bag placements that advertise the sponsor’s products.
 3. 2015 will see six National Championships that are spread-out across the country to provide easier access to USMS members. One of the events will be a two-day two-event “festival” to be held in Livermore, CA.
 4. Safety continues to be a high priority with the LDC and OWC. In all OW NC events, safety plans are critiqued and recommendations made to keep all volunteers, spectators and participants safe and preclude unnecessary risks.
 5. The LDC is encouraging all OW events to include cumulative relays (compiled by adding swim times after the event), hoping that this will help grow numbers and increase revenue. Swimmers on winning relays make LD Relay All-American.
 6. The LDC would like to increase the number of cable courses in the country to make such races more available to all swimmers. Cable swims are an excellent introduction to open water swimming for novices.
 - The LDC has adopted four goals:
 1. To increase the number of qualified bids received for review for all of the Postal and Open Water National Championships. **As of July 15th we have received 2 bids for ePostal National Championships and 5 bids for Open Water National Championships.**
 2. To restructure the NC bid forms distribution and collection process to streamline the collection and compilation process for the LDC. **This goal is complete with the implementation of the online bid forms on the USMS website. The LDC has received positive comments on the bid forms.**
 3. Begin development of a multiple-day LD festival. **Of the bids received the LDC has received one bid for a multi-day OWNC festival in the eastern region.**
 4. Increase participation in OW and Postal National Championship by 10%. **Our year is not completed, but we have numbers (YTD) for the three events completed: OHP 2013 -- 2491 participants, 2014 -- 2407; 2.4 mile OWNC 2013 – 156, 2014 -- 127; and 1 mile OWNC 2013 – 290, 2014 -- 270.**

Action items:

1. Prepare 2016 bid winner summary for announcement at Convention.
2. Hear reports from the working group regarding festival or combined OW NC events in the 2015 season.
3. Strategic marketing plan for all Long Distance NC events.
4. Continue to liaise with the on-going OW and ePostal national championships.
5. Track, prepare and submit the 2014 All Americans, All Stars, ePostal Series and national records to the website.
6. Evaluate and update host packets and standardized forms.
7. Prepare contracts for, and assign liaisons to the 2015 OW and ePostal National Championship events.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

8. Assign liaisons for the 2016 OW and ePostal National Championship events.

Long Distance Committee Agenda Meeting #1 – Thursday 2:00pm – 3:15pm - City Terrace 9

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair
3. Announcement of 2016 National Championship hosts
4. Assignment of liaisons for 2015.
5. Rules Proposals
6. Reports:
 - 2014 Liaison Reports
 - Working group Reports by leads
7. Recess

Meeting #2 – Friday 8:00am – 9:15am – City Terrace 9

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair
3. Finish up any business held over from the first meeting
 - Continued discussion of Rules Items for Submission to HOD
4. New business: Other items
5. Motion to adjourn
6. Adjournment

Rules/Long Distance Forum – Friday 2:30pm – 5:00pm – Conference Center A

1. Rules Open Forum - Long Distance/Open Water Rules Proposals Discussion

Officials

Committee Members:

Edward Saltzman, Chair; Pat Baker, Vice Chair
Brian Albright, Marilyn Fink, Secretary; John King, Al Ness, Alina Perez de Armas,
Fred Pigott, Mary Pohlmann, Herb Schwab, Sandi Rousseau
Ex-Officio: Kathy Casey, Sandi Rousseau, Laura Hamel, Clark Hammond
Executive Committee Liaison: Chris McGiffin

Introduction:

The Officials Committee mission is to create a Safe, Fair and Consistent "Masters Meet Experience" for all Masters Swimmers across the country and within each LMSC; by developing a well trained, knowledgeable core of Masters Officials; through Recruiting and Education. The committee has initiated projects to provide these officials with the tools and communications they need to perform their functions while maintaining the highest standards expected by our membership. The committee has also been working hard to strengthen our support for the USMS National Championship meets.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

- Distributed 2014 USMS Rule changes to LMSC and LSC Officials Chairs as part of our continuing education efforts
- Refreshed the USA vs. USMS Rule Quick Reference Card, produced it, and distributed it at the Spring Nationals, Summer Nationals and IGLA Championship. Also provided reference cards for local LMSC's upon request
- Ordered and distributed USMS Officials pins at both USMS Nationals
- Reviewed Section 103 of the 2014 Rule Book and participated in the Rules Committee review sessions
- Completed succession planning for the position of National Championship Administrative Referee.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- Completed the Roles and Responsibilities document for USMS Championship Meet Referee and posted in the Officials section of the Guide to Operations
- Completed the Roles and Responsibilities document for USMS Championship Admin Referee and posted in the Officials section of the Guide to Operations
- Began refresh and expansion of all Officials documents in the GTO
- Submitted six officials names to FINA for deck assignments at the 2014 FINA World Championships in Montreal - none were accepted
- At the request of Nadine Day; included a budget item in our 2015 budget request to cover the travel expenses for one official to attend the 2015 FINA World Championships in Kazan, Russia
- Participated in the LMSC Development Committee's Peer-to-Peer Teleconference for LMSC Officials Chairs to answer questions and advertise the resources the committee has to offer LMSC Officials Chairs
- Worked closely with the Meet Referee and host for the 2014 USMS Spring Nationals in Santa Clara to develop and distribute the Officials Application to work the meet. Sent out the application to all LSC and LMSC Officials Chairs; posted on the USMS web site and sent copies to officials who have previously worked a USMS National Championship in the last 5 years
- Provided the Meet Referee with action items and a timeline for completion
- Provided Official's Committee Stipends to cover partial travel expenses for eight officials who attended the meet as well as expenses for the Officials Committee Liaison to the meet
- Five members of the Officials Committee worked the deck at the Spring Nationals and served in assigned positions, such as Lead CJ
- Worked closely with the Meet Referee and host for the 2014 USMS Summer Nationals at the University of Maryland to develop and distribute the Officials Application to work the meet. Sent out the application to all LSC and LMSC Officials Chairs; posted on the USMS web site and sent copies to officials who have previously worked a USMS National Championship in the last 5 years
- Provided the Meet Referee with action items and a timeline for completion
- Several members of the Officials Committee will be working the deck at Summer Nationals; including serving as the Lead Chief Judge
- USMS Officials Name Tags were created for the Meet Referee of the 2014 Spring and Summer Nationals, as well as several highly active officials
- Submitted a Rule Change Proposal for Rule 104.5B to clarify the number of officials required for a USMS National Championship
- At the request of the Rules Committee; reviewed several proposed rule changes that effect officials
- Replied to approximately 6 officials questions submitted through the USMS web page
- Worked with the Meet Referee and host of the 2015 USMS Spring Nationals to develop the Application to Officiate for distribution at their LSC Officials clinic in September 2014
- Contributed content to the May-June 2014 Swimmer Magazine disability article called "Leave No Swimmer Behind"
- Updated the Officials Chair section of the LMSC Standards Policy document

Action Items:

1. Assignment of OC Liaisons for the 2015 USMS Spring and Summer Nationals.
2. Review and finalize the updated Master Pre-Meet Briefing document in the GTO.
3. Review and finalize the USMS Deck Officials Roles and Responsibilities document for Meet Officials in the GTO.
4. Review the list of documents in the Officials section of the GTO to determine any additional documents that may be needed.
5. Demo pilot program for training and certification of USMS Officials.
6. Finalize Training and Testing documents for the USMS Officials Certification Process.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Officials Committee Meeting Agenda Thursday 6:45pm - 7:45pm – City Terrace 12

1. Approve minutes from last meeting
2. Approve 2015 Preliminary Budget Request
3. Discuss Liaison assignments for the 2015 National Championships
 - A. San Antonio, TX - April 23 - 26, 2015
 - B. Spire Institute, Cleveland, OH - August 6 - 9, 2015
4. Discuss 2015 FINA Masters World Championships - Kazan, Russia
5. Approve updated documents in the Officials Section of the GTO - documents to be reviewed pre-convention and changes/suggestions submitted
6. Solicit suggestions for additional documentation to be included in the GTO Officials Section
7. Demonstrate pilot program for USMS Officials Training and Certification.
8. New Business

Open Water

Committee Members

Lynn Hazlewood, Chair; Rob Copeland, Vice Chair

Jim Barber, Bob Bruce, John Carlson, Glenda Carroll, Sandra Frimmerman-Bergquist, Helen Lin, Sue Nutty, Rendy Lynn Opdycke, Dick Pitman, Joanne Wainwright (recording secretary), Jim Wheeler.

Ex-Officio: Donn Livoni, Bill Roach

Executive Committee Liaison: Chris McGiffin.

Introduction

In 2007, USMS open water swimming was underdeveloped. With a few notable exceptions, we had a small number (116) of relatively small events (under 200 swimmers). The Executive Committee expressed the desire to develop USMS open water swimming. The Open Water committee began work in January 2010 with a charge to develop open water swimming, build educational materials and promote opportunities for USMS in open water swimming.

Over the past five years, the committee has engaged in various projects to improve the infrastructure on which development, education and promotion can rest. These projects include: proposing sanction legislation relevant to open water activities; developing rules of competition that open possibilities for interesting events and more inclusion of open water swimmers outside USMS; creating the Open Water Guide to Operations, which serves as a guidelines, regulatory and educational document; building a series of event safety webinars; presenting workshops and in-meeting education at convention; creating an Open Water Service Award; and developing plans for an event results database and swimmer award system. In addition, the committee advises event hosts, swimmers and USMS open water administrators on open water-related problems.

From this point forward, foundation work will continue, but there will be more emphasis on event development and promotion opportunities for USMS. To that end, the committee is supporting two rules proposals: the Independent Safety Monitor proposal and the Open National Championships proposal. We will discuss both proposals and their implications for event development in our convention meeting on Thursday.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. **Open Water Guide to Operations** (Chair Rob Copeland): Last fall, the committee updated the OWGTO to conform to 2014 changes in administrative safety requirements and published a document on "Major Changes for 2014." Part 3: Officials Guidelines is in process. Rob will present a mini-workshop on event management at the convention meeting partially based on the new Officials Guidelines.
 1. **Safety Education** (Chair Jim Wheeler): This year Jim Wheeler initiated an Open Water Safety Education series that includes: Basic Open Water Safety webinars (March 16 and April 13), Swimmer Safety webinar (June 22), Open Water Safety Staffing and Emergency Preparedness webinar (July 20) and Swimmer Preparation for OW Swimming webinar (August). The August webinar will lead into the convention Open Water Workshop, a panel discussion on techniques for open water swimming. Links to all documents and webinar/workshop videos are posted on the USMS Guide to Operations under the Long Distance/Open Water heading.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

2. **Insurance Rebate Panel** (Chair Rob Copeland): The Insurance Rebate Panel is operated by the Open Water committee for USMS to assist needy events with insurance surcharges. The panel had fewer requests and granted less money this year than the previous year.
3. **Sanction Status Reports** (OWCC Bill Roach): Bill Roach kept the committee informed of the status of sanctions for 2014. As of the writing of this report, it looked like we will at least equal last year's total of 57 sanctioned events.
4. **Rules & Legislation** (Chair Bob Bruce): The Open Water committee joined the Long Distance committee for evaluation of rules proposals from inside and outside the committee. Many hours went into this project from both committees.
5. **Open Water National Service Award** (Chair Lynn Hazlewood): The committee collected nominations for the Open Water National Service Award. A ten-person selection committee made up of members from both the Open Water and Long Distance committees voted to select the winner, who will be announced at convention in September. Joanne Wainwright is handling the award acquisition.
6. **Future of USMS Open Water Swimming**—At various times during the spring and summer, the committee engaged in lengthy discussions of the future of the Open Water committee and USMS open water swimming. During the July 13 meeting, the committee agreed to ask the Board of Directors to make a commitment to the future of USMS open water swimming, including a complete education program (for event management, USMS administrators and swimmers), enhanced and consistent IT support (functional databases and a better presence on the web site for education materials), and working with the committee on promotion and development of USMS open water swimming.

Action Items

1. Action items were discussed in the previous section and recorded in published minutes.

Open Water Committee Agenda Thursday 3:30pm – 4:45pm – City Terrace 7

1. Brief business meeting.
2. Discussion of Critical Rules Proposals.
3. The future of USMS Open Water Swimming
4. Other/New Business

Recognition and Awards

Committee Members

Ray Novitske, Chair; Sally Dillon, Vice Chair

Carolyn Boak, Rich Burns, Maria Elias-Williams, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Heather Howland, Kerry O'Brien, Lori Payne, Walt Reid, Nancy Ridout, Laura Val, Robert Zeitner

Ex-Officio: Tracy Grilli

Executive Committee Liaison: Chris Stevenson

Introduction

The Recognition and Awards Committee oversees all US Masters Swimming volunteer service awards, even though some awards are selected by other committees. The committee receives nominations and selects recipients for the Ransom J. Arthur MD, Dorothy Donnelly Service, June Krauser Communications, and the Club of the Year awards. The committee membership includes representation from the Coaches, History & Archives, Long Distance, and Records & Tabulation committees.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee held conference calls in November and April to discuss projects, assign tasks, and report progress. The minutes are posted on the USMS web site.
2. The committee discussed and undertook several tasks to increase nominations for its service awards.
 - a. A subcommittee prepared press releases/announcements for 2013 recipients of the Dorothy Donnelly Service, Club of the Year, and June Krauser Communications awards and sent them out to the

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- recipients' LMSC webmasters and newsletter editors. It is hoped that increasing visibility of recipients will result in more interest in nominations in the future.
- b. A subcommittee developed a campaign to reach out to members and remind them of the national recognition opportunities. A promotional notice was designed, printed, and included in the Spring National Championship meet package distributed to participants. Reminders of service award nomination deadlines were sent to all LMSC chairs.
 - c. Increased coordination with the publications staff at the National Office resulted in utilizing the USMS Twitter feeds and Facebook postings to announce the Ransom Arthur recipient and to remind of upcoming nomination deadlines for the remaining awards.
 - d. Notices of upcoming nomination deadlines were included in the national magazine, Streamlines, Streamlines for Volunteers, and Streamlines for Coaches.
3. The 2014 Captain Ransom J. Arthur MD Award was presented to Hill Carrow of North Carolina LMSC. USMS President Nadine Day surprised Hill with the award at his club pool in North Carolina. Nadine announced the award decision to the membership at the Spring National Championships in Santa Clara and will present it formally to Hill at the 2014 USAS convention banquet. Past recipients were also recognized at Santa Clara. Two other outstanding contributors were nominated along with Hill: Michael Moore of Pacific LMSC and Michael Heather of Pacific LMSC.
 4. Plans are underway to again prepare press releases for 2014 recipients after the convention presentation and to send them out to their local LMSC and media outlets.
 5. LMSC survey and promotion of recognition of service on the local level. A subcommittee surveyed LMSCs to determine what awards, if any, are presented to volunteers in recognition of their service at the local level. Results indicate that many more LMSCs have a recognition system in place in 2014 than they did when surveyed in 2010. Most of the LMSCs who do not have a system in place indicated that they would appreciate suggestions. Some great ideas have been generated and the subcommittee will prepare a summary of the survey results and offer concrete suggestions, all of which will be distributed to LMSCs and at the convention.
 6. Nominations for the majority of USMS awards were due July 1. The efforts made to encourage nominations this year had some good results with the R&A Committee experiencing more volunteers nominated for most awards.

Recognition and Awards Agenda Thursday 6:45pm – 8:00pm – City Terrace 9

1. The official "Pinning" of the 2014 RJA award honoree – Hill Carrow.
2. Chair's report.
3. Budget review
4. Report on annual projects: Ransom Arthur, Dorothy Donnelly Service, June Krauser Communications, and Club of the Year awards.
5. Report and discussion on year's subcommittees: Increasing Nominations, and Promotion of Recognition at the Local Level.
6. Discussion on projects for the upcoming year.

Records and Tabulation

Committee Members

Jeanne Seidler, Chair; Greg Danner, Vice Chair

Michael Abegg, Barbara Dunbar, Ginger Pierson, Walt Reid (National Records Administrator), Mary Sweat, Kim Thornton, Hans Van Meeteren, Mary Beth Windrath (National Swims Administrator)

Ex Officio: James Matysek Executive Committee Liaison: Chris Stevenson

Introduction

The Records and Tabulation Committee is responsible for the process of recording and verifying Top 10 times, All-American and All-Star rosters, and USMS national records for all three courses. In addition to a chair and vice-chair, the committee includes the National Swims Administrator, who collects, verifies and compiles Top 10 submissions from the LMSCs, and the USMS Records Administrator, who collects and verifies record applications and maintains the USMS records. The pool measurement process is within the domain of the committee. The committee maintains the USMS List of Measured Pools.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

The committee works closely with the USMS Webmaster & IT Director for the online publication of lists, rosters and records, and to simplify and automate the compilation and verification of all swim performances in pools measured as per USMS pool measurement rules.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. For the past year, the Records Administrator and Swims Administrator continued their customary roles of verifying, compiling and publishing USMS Records and Top 10 Swims, respectively. The committee chair published the list of Top 10 swims and All-Americans on the USMS website.
2. Committee business was taken up during five conference calls (Nov 10, Dec 16, Jan 19, Feb 16 and July TBD) and electronically through email and the secured Records and Tabulation USMS Administrative Forum defined for this business purpose.
3. The committee was assigned to follow through on two remaining sub-projects in the E2EEM project. One project is to support identification of national records through the Top Ten Tools. The other project is to define the requirements for a certified measured pools database. Both projects are on the IT project list but are not scheduled as yet. Very early preliminary work has been done on the measured pools database.
4. On the topic of publishing Records in Section A of the Rule Book, the committee voted to continue publishing Pool Records in the Rule Book as this is the one consistent reference required for all Pool Meets. Publishing the postal and open water records in the Rule Book was not in the scope of consideration by the RT Committee.
5. The following documents were updated for clarity and accuracy: the Guide to Operations, the list of Committee policies, the Application for USMS and/or World Record and the Pool Length Certification form. In addition, changes were requested for the documents generated from the On-Line Sanction System with references to pool measurement rules. Changes will be made to the Sanction section of the GTO.
6. The USMS List of Measured Pools has been kept up to date with pool measurement documents provided by TTRs. The USMS List is a comprehensive reference of all pools which have been measured for competition. This effort continues as an on-going process.
7. The committee asked for and received an interpretation regarding unregistered swimmers in sanctioned meets and whether or not the whole meet should be rejected from Top Ten consideration. The essence of the interpretation was that the meet would not be rejected from Top Ten consideration.
8. Numerous inquiries were made to the committee, but mostly to the Chair and National Top Ten Administrator regarding various questions related to Top Ten, pool measurement, availability of Top Ten times, and split request listings in the ERDB. Based on numerous questions, changes are noted in the Top Ten General Information to clarify some of the questions. Also, an appeals policy was formulated for Top Ten issues.
9. The committee asked for and received an interpretation of the situation for recording a relay lead-off split at a recognized meet when all members of the relay are not members of the same USMS team and some members might not be USMS members. In this case, the relay lead-off split is an official time if the relay also meets the other rules for relay lead-off splits at a sanctioned meet. This will be noted in the next cycle of publishing in the GTO.
10. The committee is proposing several housekeeping and/or clarification changes to rules for the 2014 Convention.

Action Items

None.

Records and Tabulations Committee Agenda Friday 8:00am – 9:15am – City Terrace 4

1. Introductions.
2. Summarize changes in the past year, new information for Top Ten Recorders published in the Guide to Operations, various issues resolved during the year.
3. Summarize remaining projects in E2EEM.
4. Summarize rules proposals for the 2014 Convention.
5. Open Discussion on RT projects for 2014-2015, potential legislation and policy changes for 2015.
6. Open Feedback Session ... members and audience to discuss the topic of supporting needs of Top Ten Recorders on the LMSC level. (Access to Sanction Information & Other topics from the floor).

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Registration

Committee Members

Leo Letendre, Chair; George Simon, Vice Chair; Susan Ehringer, Vice Chair
Chris Colburn, Dawn-Ann Dykes, Arni Litt, Liz Mason, Robin Tracy, Gregory Weber
Ex-Officio: Anna Lea Matysek
Executive Committee Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki

Introduction

The registration committee was active this year on a number of projects including the oversight of the conversion to the in-house registration system, several policy issues and advising on proposed membership options.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee oversaw, through testing and feedback, the implementation of the in-house registration system. The system has been operating well since the beginning of the registration year. A number of issues were identified and most were addressed by the IT staff.
2. In conjunction with the Staff, options for modifying the membership options for those wishing to join USMS during the latter part of the year were discussed. The committee recommended a “16 month” membership which offers a membership which automatically renews the member at the start of the following registration year having pre-paid for that year.
3. The committee adopted a policy which indicated that registrars shall not provide a registration card to a third party but must deliver (including through the postal system) the card directly to the member since the membership card contains personal identifiable information.
4. The committee received consultation with respect to the new member waiver and provided appropriate feedback.

Action Items

1. None at this time.

Registration Committee Agenda Thursday 6:45pm – 7:45pm – City Terrace 8

1. Welcome
2. Discussion of Registration Issues
 - a. Role of LMSCs in the Lifetime Fitness partnership
3. Discussion of the role and expectations of registrars.
4. Discussion of other membership options
5. Any other business
6. Close

Rules

Committee Members

Kathrine Casey, Chair; Charlie Cockrell, Vice Chair; Kris Wingenroth, Secretary
Carolyn Boak, Sally Dillon, Marilyn Fink, Judy Gillies, Laura Groselle, Mollie Grover, Matt Hooper, Brian Hoyt, John King, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Ginny Trimble, Steve Unruh, and Rand Vaillancourt
Ex-Officio: Ed Saltzman, Officials Committee Chair; Susan Ehringer, Rule Book Coordinator; Meg Smath, Legislation Committee Chair; Anna Lea Matysek, National Office; and Dan McAllen, USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee Chair
Executive Committee Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki

Introduction

The Rules Committee has jurisdiction over Part 1: Swimming Rules and the Glossary. Since this is a Rules year, amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary may be passed by a majority vote of the House of Delegates if they are properly submitted and recommended for approval by the Rules Committee. Proposed amendments NOT recommended for approval by the Rules Committee may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates. Proposed rule changes

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

have been submitted by LMSCs and by USMS standing committees. One proposed change under the jurisdiction of both the Rules and Long Distance committees has been submitted (see 601.4.5 for procedures).

Part 1 is based on articles 101, 102, and 105 of the USA Swimming Technical Rules, which, as amended, govern all Masters swimming competitions. The Rules Committee will make recommendations to the delegates on amendments approved by USA Swimming at this year's convention. There are two USA-S proposed amendments that could impact USMS rules and one USA-S proposed housekeeping amendment, all of which will be considered in accordance with 601.4.7A. The committee may also recommend changes made to USA-S article 103 (Facility Standards) to the USMS House of Delegates for USMS article 107 (there are two USA-S proposed amendments that fall into this category).

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Proofread the 2014 rule book for the correct insertion of:
 - A. FINA-approved and USA Swimming-approved amendments that were also adopted by USMS
 - B. USMS-adopted amendments to Parts 2 – 6 as proposed by the Rules Committee
 - C. reference numbers throughout the rules
 - D. corrections to the rule book that were reported throughout the year
 - E. additions to the index
2. Updated the “Differences” documents for Appendix B in the 2014 rule book (USA-S, NCAA, FINA, and NFHS rules differences) and submitted the USMS/USA-S rules differences to USA Swimming for publication in their rule book.
3. Submitted rules text for “Major Changes for 2014”.
4. Reviewed the USMS rules included in the “Our Kids Initiative” (OKI) comparison of rules for all swimming governing bodies.
5. Published several updates of the FINA rule changes that impacted USMS rules.
6. Worked with the Legislation Chair and the Registration Chair to update the adopted amendment to 201.3.4 (unattached rule) as requested by FINA, so the Legislation Committee could give advice and consent to the Board of Directors for emergency action.
7. Published monthly articles in *Streamlines* for coaches that address the most frequently asked questions about rules.
8. Provided a Rules Liaison and a Liaison-in-training to National Championship meets to assist with rules questions and interpretations and assisted with information for automatic split retrieval for official times.
9. Reviewed the Glossary and Part 1 comparing it to USA Swimming articles 101, 102, and 105 looking for any missing USA-S changes, as well as to the USMS Meet Director's Guide and contract for national championship meets, and the Guide to Operations. The committee will present recommendations for changes/updates to the House of Delegates.
10. Answered all questions about rules including the following:
 - A. As members of “UC”, unattached swimmers cannot compete in relays (102.9.1), and swimmers who are transferred to UC status for nationals must comply with 104.5.4A(3).
 - B. Only the touch at the wall for turns and finishes on the breaststroke and butterfly have changed. See the underlined language in the rules below.

101.2.4 Turns and Finish—At each turn and at the finish of the race, the touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water level. At the last stroke before the turn and at the finish an arm stroke not followed by a leg kick is permitted. The head may be submerged after the last arm pull prior to the touch, provided it breaks the surface of the water at some point during the last complete or incomplete cycle preceding the touch.

101.3.4 Turns—At each turn the body shall be on the breast. The touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface. Once a touch has been made, the swimmer may turn in any manner desired. The shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast when the swimmer leaves the wall.

101.3.5 Finish—At the finish, the body shall be on the breast and the touch shall be made with both hands separated and simultaneously at, above, or below the water surface.

Given the above changes, the breaststroke cycle itself has not changed, and a single dolphin kick is still allowed during or at the completion of the first arm pull (101.2.2). At the last stroke before the turn and finish an arm pull without a leg kick is still permitted (101.2.4). One breaststroke kick per butterfly arm pull is also still allowed (101.3.3).

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

C. Do not deny a swimmer's request for an initial butterfly split from an IM event unless the swimmer is disqualified from the event. 103.18.2 states, "An official time for an event or stroke can be achieved only in that event or stroke, or in an initial distance of such event or stroke (e.g., backstroke time must be achieved in a backstroke event OR A BUTTERFLY TIME CAN BE ACHIEVED IN AN INDIVIDUAL MEDLEY EVENT). Regardless of the stroke(s) used, times achieved in freestyle events can be recorded only as freestyle times.

D. A swimmer who competes in more than five individual events per day at a USMS-sanctioned meet will be disqualified in all individual events beyond the first five events swum on that day (102.6). Split times do not count as additional events, so initial split times from those five events per day are allowed.

E. Foreign Masters swimmers who are registered with their federations are permitted to participate in USMS meets. For example, 104.5.4A(2) states that foreign swimmers are welcome at USMS national championship meets but cannot qualify for USMS Top 10, All-American, or USMS records.

F. The competition course has to be measured (all lanes) before the meet if it has not been certified for length and is not on the USMS list or FINA list of certified pools. When entering a dual-sanctioned meet or a USA Swimming meet, if the USA-S meet information states that the pool "has not been certified in accordance with 104.2.2C(4)", that means that the pool is not certified for length with USA-S. If the pool length certification is not on file with USMS either, then all lanes must be measured in order for times to count for USMS purposes (USMS 105.1.6 and 105.1.7A&B). The list of pools certified by USMS can be found on the USMS website in the "Top Ten/Records and Tabulation" section of the Guide to Operations. If the USA-S meet is not dual sanctioned, it is the swimmer's responsibility to ensure that the pool is measured (read "How to get your times to count for records and Top 10 Tabulation" in the same section of the Guide to Operations for details).

G. All bulkhead pools must be measured prior to the start of USMS-sanctioned competition either for all lanes if there is not a pool length measurement on file with USMS or FINA or for the two outside lanes and a center lane if the pool length measurement IS on file with USMS or FINA. Otherwise, swimmers may lose all times achieved at the meet as in the following example of a pre-meet measurement of a bulkhead pool showing all lanes short and a post-meet measurement showing all lanes legal: "If the competition was started without adjusting the bulkhead and re-measuring the course prior to the first race, none of the times can be considered for USMS Top 10 and records, because it is unknown at which point in time during the meet each lane adjusted itself to a legal length."

H. If the pool length measurement is on file with USMS or FINA, bulkhead measurement IS required to confirm the course length for USMS records at USA Swimming meets and dual-sanctioned meets but not at international meets that are sanctioned by a FINA Masters member federation other than USMS (105.1.7D&E). Dual-sanctioned meets also require confirmation of bulkhead course length for USMS Top 10 as well as for USMS records (105.1.7E).

I. All members of a relay must swim without being disqualified in order for the leadoff swimmer's split to be considered for an official USMS time (103.18.1C).

J. There is no USMS rule or policy prohibiting officials from also swimming at a meet. That includes USMS national championship meets where a few officials usually compete and officiate. However the deck at meets other than USMS national championship meets must be staffed with the minimum number of personnel: at least TWO people fulfilling FOUR official positions, one (a certified official) as referee and stroke & turn judge and the second person as starter and stroke & turn judge (103.2.1). A referee must be certified as a referee or, if certified as a starter or stroke and turn judge, must receive training on specific duties of a referee (103.3.1). Uncertified officials may serve as starters or stroke and turn judges if they receive training in the specific duties of the assigned positions and serve under the supervision of a certified official (103.3.2). The LMSC Officials chair can provide such training. These rules address only the minimum requirements, not specific meet situations.

K. When the primary timing system is manual watches, a minimum of two watches is required, including when switching from automatic to manual primary timing during a 50-meter meet and giving the timers watches for the 50-meter sprints (two timers per lane, each with a watch is required, 102.17.2A[3]). Note that three watches are required for national and world records (exception: split times for national records require automatic timing or semi-automatic with three buttons). A primary system of two watches is only good for USMS Top 10 and FINA Top 10, including split times (103.18.4).

L. One watch per lane is the minimum required for the tertiary system for an automatic primary timing system and as such, a valid one-watch time will count as an automatic time for all USMS purposes including records, when adjusted in accordance with 103.17.3C, E, F, G, & table 2, if the automatic and the semi-automatic backup timing all fail or are invalid (103.18.7).

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

M. Both parties have to be involved in the dual-sanctioning process of a meet between the local USMS and USA-S organizations (see pages 144-145 of the 2014 USMS Rule Book, “Dual Sanctioned Events”).

N. The following swim attire are all illegal but appeared at USMS Summer and Spring Nationals: zipper suit, female suit or bra top of a two-piece suit with metal or plastic rings in the straps, suit with a plastic clip hooking the straps to the suit in the back, Kinesio tape, illegal male Arena Carbon Pro suit (FINA stamp #AR141364), Speedo Fastskin with the rubber dots on the chest (rubber dots can be carefully peeled off, making that suit legal), and a bra top under a racing suit (modesty wear or garments under racing suits are prohibited). Any kind of tape on the body must be approved by the referee (not just tape for the shoulders but tape on any part of the body) except Kinesio tape. All swimmers with illegal attire expressed either surprise or anger. It is the swimmer’s responsibility to know the rules when participating in a national championship meet. Rules information is readily available on the USMS website, in the *Streamlines* for Coaches, in the USMS Rule Book, in the Guide to Operations, and by contacting the USMS Rules chair (rules@usms.org).

O. Arm bands and leg bands are not considered parts of swimwear (102.12.1E). Items resembling armbands, legbands, and tape (Cho-Pats, bandages, coverage for wounds and injuries) are referred to the referee (102.12.1E) for a decision.

P. Only swimwear exemptions issued by USMS for medical or religious reasons will be accepted for USMS-sanctioned and USMS-recognized competition. Swimwear exemptions granted by other swimming governing bodies will not be accepted. USMS swimwear exemptions must be renewed annually unless granted permanent status. (See Rules Committee Policies.)

Q. At least one foot has to be at the front of the block, but placing the toes of one foot at the forward edge of the block is not required (101.1.1). Both feet cannot be at the back of the platform; at least one foot has to be on the front part of the platform. The front of the platform is, simply, not the back of the platform. It is permissible to place both feet at the front of the block. Once the feet are placed, the swimmer is to remain there (103.8.5A).

R. FINA rules governed the FINA World Masters Swimming Championships in Montreal, Canada. The differences between FINA and USMS rules are in Appendix B, pages 154-156, of the USMS Rule Book.

Action Items

1. Completed proofreading and corrections for the 2014 USMS Rule Book.
2. Submitted proposed changes to the Glossary and Part 1.

Rules Committee Agenda

Meeting #1, Thursday 3:30pm – 4:45pm – City Terrace 9

1. Review and approve minutes.
2. Review the 2015 budget and 2014 expenditures.
3. Consider whether to accept a proposed long distance amendment, that also falls under the jurisdiction of the Rules Committee, as an indivisible package (2/3 committee vote required, 601.4.5A).
4. Consider proposed amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.
5. Consider proposed USA Swimming amendments and prepare potential recommendations for the House of Delegates.

Meeting #2, Friday 9:30am – 10:30am (no break between this and HOD) – City Terrace 9

1. Consider proposed amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.
2. Review proposed tasks for 2015: Proofread rule book; update Differences documents; post current interpretations; develop situations manual or data base of frequently asked rules questions and/or common rules problems; create and maintain historical database of USMS exceptions to USA-S rules, rules rationales, and interpretations; and update transsexual policy.

Rules and Long Distance Forum during HOD #4, Friday 2:30 pm – 5:15 pm (estimate 3:30pm – 4:15pm on the HOD agenda) – Conference Center A

1. Take comments and questions on proposed amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary from the House of Delegates.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Meeting #3, Saturday 8:00 am – 9:15 am (no break between this and HOD) – City Terrace 9

1. Consider proposed amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.
2. Review proposed tasks for 2015: Proofread rule book; update Differences documents; post current interpretations; develop situations manual or data base of frequently asked rules questions and/or common rules problems; create and maintain historical database of USMS exceptions to USA-S rules, rules rationales, and interpretations; and update transsexual policy.

Meeting #4, Saturday 1:00pm – 1:30pm – City Terrace 12

1. Consider USA Swimming amendments as approved by the USA Swimming House of Delegates and prepare final recommendations for the USMS House of Delegates.

Sports Medicine and Science

Committee Members

Jane Moore, Chair; Cathy Fedako, Vice Chair

Sally Berry, Jon Blank, Heide Crino, Melinda Greig Walker, Sally Guthrie, Lisa Hiller, Jane Katz, Lo Knapp, Katherine Longwell, Jim Miller, Ellen Parchen, Mary Pohlmann, Jessica Seaton, Robin Tracy, Phil Whitten

Ex-Officio: Laura Hamel

Executive Committee Liaison: Jody Smith

Introduction

The Sports Medicine and Science Committee educates members and the public on topics of sports medicine and science and works to stimulate and encourage research pertaining to Masters swimming.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The goals for 2013 as tied to the strategic plan were reviewed and discussed. No changes were suggested. If we are interested in higher exposure on a different stage, we should consider having a booth at the American College of Sports Medicine Annual Meeting. We would need to work with the National Office on this and might be able to share a booth with USA Swimming.
2. Heide Crino worked on a display and screenings for Spring Nationals at Santa Clara. We had a 10' x 10' booth in the vendor area. A dermatologist was willing to volunteer to perform skin screenings on Saturday afternoon. He required a female chaperone; Heide did this most of the afternoon. The dermatologist was busy during the entire screening time. Heide could have used extra help. She did find one non-swimming person who was willing to help while she was swimming. Samples and materials were purchased to give to swimmers including trial size broad spectrum SPF 30 sunscreen from Rocky Mountain Sunscreen (500 for \$375 plus 500 free), Green Tree Lip Balm SPF 30 (\$150 for 150 plus 150 free), ABCDE's of Skin Cancer bookmarks from American Academy of Dermatology (200 for \$28), and a \$50 Skin Care Kit from the Skin Cancer Foundation with screening forms, handouts, flyers, posters and brochures. Pipe and drape rental for the skin care screening area was \$183. This expenditure was approved by email vote. In order to get to the meet early Thursday to set up the booth, Heide had to fly to Santa Clara on Wednesday and spend an extra night in the hotel. The display and screenings were very popular; an estimated 800 swimmers visited the display. There was very good promotion in the pre-event newsletters.
3. A similar display and screening is being planned by Heide Crino for Summer Nationals. Sally Guthrie will be attending the meet so will help with arrangements and management. Heide will work on finding a volunteer dermatologist to provide screening. She will also work with Kyle Deery to get booth space and will arrange to get samples for the booth; there are brochures, flyers, and a banner left over from Spring Nationals. We will probably need fewer samples since the meet is indoors. Sally Guthrie will be in charge at the meet; Jim Miller and Mary Pohlmann will both be at part of the meet and can help Sally while there. Laura Hamel will let Kyle know that we plan to continue skin cancer screening at national championship meets; he might be able to use this promotion to leverage a sponsor.
4. Review of articles for Swimmer magazine is ongoing. Jane Moore receives articles and either reviews them or sends to a member of the Health Network for review. Laura has set up a Sports Medicine Calendar. Articles

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

approved by the committee can be put on the calendar for publication and can be labeled as coming from the Sports Medicine & Science Committee.

5. An article on results from the dry land training survey is scheduled for the fitness issue of Swimmer Magazine in September-October. Katherine Longwell is working with the author. Sally Guthrie has graduate students working with the data from the survey; they plan to publish results.
6. We discussed choosing a topic and developing a script for a video. The project manager who does videos at national meets could shoot a video. We would need to pay a cameraman for one-half to one day. The video would be posted to the USMS website the night of shooting and would then be publicized through social media. The topic chosen was hydration and nutrition at meets; how and when to replenish for performance. Video will be only 30 seconds so will need to stick to basic principles. Sally Berry worked with Jim Miller and Laura to develop questions. A script has been created. They are thinking of using a committee member to film the video to add credibility; need to find someone who is good on camera and easygoing. We could tie videos in to Healthy Swimmer articles like technique articles that have click-on videos. Laura has some funding in her budget; we might also work with the Coaches Committee as an additional source of funds Laura is continuing to work on coordinating a speaker and the cameraman.
7. A possible longevity study suggested by Sherwin Gormly was discussed. The concept sounds great, but we need more details before we could endorse the study. Jane Moore directed him to the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation which has guidelines for grant proposals.
8. The idea of a Sports Medicine discussion forum or blog was discussed. This could expand the current use of the Health Network so that questions and answers would be available to more people. The forum would need to be moderated to direct questions to an appropriate expert. A forum might result in a much higher number of questions and a greater exposure to liability risk. It would need to be set up so that every post would be reviewed before being made public to avoid lay people answering questions with personal experiences. It could be set up as a medical corner; submitted questions would be reviewed and one picked for response each month. This would provide a public presence for the Sports Medicine and Science Committee and show activity and expertise. Jessica thinks this would be a good member benefit; questions and answers would need to be kept very general; this could provide a place for links to and feeds from health care resources. The committee could approve articles on a regular basis then post or tweet information once a week or once a month. Articles could be stored in Google Drive for committee members to review and approve. Laura sent a link to a sample of her blog. It does not have a forced schedule; no comments are allowed. We could use a similar blog to post items as available. New articles could be reviewed and approved by the committee before posting. People would subscribe to the blog and receive an email message whenever a new item is published. Swimmers questions and answers could be posted. Updates can be added if information becomes outdated. The waiver used in all publications can be used on the blog. A blog would make it easier to find old articles. We will need a systematic method for review of past articles.
9. Sally Berry is organizing the convention presentation. A panel discussion with a nutritionist, an athlete, and a medical person would be good. Jim Miller can be the medical person. We could contact other USAS NGB's to see if they are interested in taking advantage of any speakers brought to convention.
10. Katherine reports that the Coaches Committee would like a presentation on Adaptive Programming – changes needed to coach swimmers with developed conditions such as traumatic brain injury or joint replacement. Other topics might include nutrition and strength training. The Coaches Committee plans to put on clinics, akin to "High Performance" and USA Swimming's "Regional Coaching Clinics". These clinics would rotate around the country and the primary focus would be to educate coaches. The Sports Medicine and Science committee thinks it is important to be able to adapt any presentation to coaches present and to be able to answer specific questions. We will continue to work with the Coaches Committee on this project.

Action Items

1. Approve expenditures within budget for items to hand out at national championship booth. 3/3/14.
2. Approve \$183 for rental of pipe and drape for the skin care screening area at nationals. This expenditure was approved by email vote after 3/3/14 call.
3. Approve reimbursement to Heide Crino for over budget expenses of car rental (\$287.11) and extra hotel night (\$376.06) totaling \$663.17. 6/12/14.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Sports Medicine and Science Committee Agenda Thursday 2:00pm – 3:15pm – City Terrace 8

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Displays and screenings at national championship meets; report from 2014 Summer Nationals; plans for 2015
3. Convention presentation update
4. Video production update
5. Sports Medicine and Science Blog development update
6. Coaches Clinic presentations
7. Research Projects: updates from past projects; review of new proposals, if any
8. Legislation/Rules/Open Water Proposals: review any with science/medical aspects
9. Committee goals and work plan for 2014
10. Other Business
11. Next Meeting/Conference call
12. Adjourn

Breadbasket Zone

We are happy to say that the BB Zone had a very high performance ranking in the LMSC Surveys this year. That means we are fulfilling our obligations to the National Office. One state still needs help to meet these suggestions and requirements.

Many meets were held with much success, but Colorado seems to know how to have a meet and a party at the same time based on the Grand Junction meet!

Breadbasket Zone Agenda Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – City Terrace 6

1. Roll Call
2. Approve 2013 Minutes
3. Membership numbers
4. Review LMSC Standards and discuss ND status
5. Communication within Zone regarding Facebook and zone website, which USMS does provide space for (we would need to purchase a domain name)
6. Continue to update Places to Swim
7. Zone meet rotation for the next five years

Colonies Zone

Committee Members

Jeff Strahota, Chair; Deb Morrin-Nordlund, Vice Chair

All members in the Colonies Zone LMSCs attending convention (and any LMSC officers not able to make the journey).

Introduction

The Colonies Zone includes 10 LMSCs: Virginia, Potomac Valley, Maryland, Delaware Valley, New Jersey, Metropolitan, Adirondack, Niagara, Connecticut and New England.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

- 1) Zone Championships held: SCM (Boston U), SCY (GMU)
- 2) Bid solicitations for upcoming Zone Championships
- 3) Solicitation for nominations for the Colonies Dot Award
- 4) LMSC Development Projects

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- a) LMSC Scorecards
- b) Peer-to-Peer teleconferences
- 5) Big Meet Guide
- 6) 2014 Marriott USMS Summer National Championship held at University of Maryland, College Park

Action Items (for Convention)

- 1) Awarding the Zone Dot Award
- 2) Nominate At-Large Board of Director(s)

Colonies Zone Agenda

Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – City Terrace 4

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Presentation of 2014 Zone DOT Award
- 3) Zone Election Nomination/ Forum/ Election
- 4) Zone Championship Updates
 - a) 2013 Pool and Open Water Championship Recap
 - b) Bids for 2013 SCM and all 2014 Zone Championships
 - c) Colonies Zone Big Meet Guide update
- 5) LMSC Development Updates
 - a) LMSC Scorecards
 - b) Peer-to-Peer teleconferences
- 6) Zone Website/E-mail list
- 7) New Business
- 8) Adjourn

Dixie Zone

Greetings Dixie Zone. July is here, and USMS's long course season is in full-swing.

With this month preparations for USMS's 2014 Convention also notch up. The 2014 Convention is in our zone, once again in Jacksonville, Florida, and will September 17-21. In preparation for that, each Local Master Swimming Committee (LMSC) last month were sent preliminary scores on USMS's 45 standards for LMSC. The standards are designed to help ensure that each LMSC is practicing effectively, and the preliminary scores were sent to help foster discussions within each LMSC on what is recommended by USMS be done (and whether/not it is).

In more direct preparation for Convention, three items to note:

1. This year the Zone will elect a new at-large representative to the USMS Board of Director. This person will be new as our current rep, Maria Elias-Williams is not running for re-election to the position. We currently have one candidate for the election: Sean Fitzgerald. Sean has been a long-time Vice Chair for the Georgia LMSC, and recently just completed 8 years as Chair of USMS Legislation Committee. Further information on Sean (as well as other candidates up for similar positions in USMS's 7 other zones) can be found online here:

<http://www.usms.org/admin/election14/>

2. At Convention, the Zone will elect the hosts for the Zone Championships in 2015. We are looking for 4 championships: short course yards, long course meters, short course meters, and open water. LMSCs please check with your meets/events and see if any are interested in being a Zone championships. If yes, please have them prepare a brief description of their event, including at least: dates of the meet, location and history. Also, it is advisable for someone at Convention to be prepared to answer questions about the event.

3. If anyone has items for the agenda for the Zone's meeting at Convention, please get them to me. They can be emailed to dixie@usms.org.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

I hope your summer is going well and good luck in College Park, Montreal and/or wherever your end-of-season meets may take you.

Dixie Zone Agenda

Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – City Terrace 5

1. Roll call/attendance/introductions
2. Reports from chairs
3. Zone Board of Director election discussion
4. 2015 Zone Championships host selection: SCY, LCM, OW & SCM
5. Discuss LMSC Standards reports
6. Old Business
7. New Business
8. Adjourn

Great Lakes Zone

Committee Members

Daniel Cox, Chair

All LMSCs in the Great Lake Zone

Introduction

This past year we have seen an increase overall in our membership in USMS and the Great Lakes is no exception. The top three LMSC in the Great Lakes to show 10% growth (as of July 1st) were: Allegany Mountain, Lake Erie and Michigan. Tip of the Hat to those LMSCs for a job well done increasing membership. It is through your efforts that USMS is a thriving and successful organization. This year, the Great Lake Zone will start on a five year drive to build up enough reserves to sponsor a coach or coaches to clinics. This fund will also be used to support activities throughout the Zone. We will continue to move forward on driving more traffic to our website and Face Book page.

IN THE ZONE: Thanks to clubs like Indy Aquatic Masters and Zionsville Aquatic Masters, **Indiana** had a successful start to the Swimming Saves Lives Program. Governor Pence declared April an “adult learn-to-swim” month and former Governor Mitch Daniels helped out with some publicity at Purdue.

GRIN Fitness Chair Robin Walker, and INDY founder Mel Goldstein have spear-headed the program here with assistance from the national office.

ZAM taught 95 adults to swim.

Ohio was able to add swimming to the long list of sporting events at the Arned Schlesinger sporting festival. Nice job expanding USMS swimming!

Issues in the Zone:

GLOWS: It was decided that because so few open water venues are left, the Zone would suspend Glows until such time as more LMSCs have open water events.

FUNDING: With the suspension of Glows, I have recommended that we start developing the Great Lake Zone funds so that we can do things such as sponsor coaches, swimmers and events in the Zone.

Action Items:

1. Build up Zone fund to implement a coaches fund
2. Mentor LMSCs that have issue with compliance
3. Other project ideas for the Great Lake Zone funds
4. Make the face book page more active

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

Great Lakes Zone Agenda Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – City Terrace 12

1. Roll Call and introduction of New Delegates
2. Financial Report & funding of the Great Lake Zone
3. Newsletter /website
4. Recommendations to the House of Delegates; candidate for At Large Board Director
5. Elect Great Lake Zone Representative in case current Zone Chair is elected to the Board
6. Great Lake Zone LMSC Updates and mentoring
7. Other Business
8. Adjourn

Northwest Zone

Tim Waud, Chair

Committee Members: Matt Bronson (IW), Lisa Dahl (PN), , Donn Livoni (MT), Paula Moores (SR), Jeanne Teisher (OR), Gordon Gridley (UT), Joanne Wainwright (AK), Ken Winterberger (treasurer), Hugh Moore (webmaster)

Introduction

During the previous year, the Northwest Zone hosted, or will host, Zone championship events in three event types (SCM, SCY, and LCM). Zone conference calls were conducted on a quarterly basis. The USMS Northwest Zone Discussion Forum page was used to enhance communications within the Zone. The Zone currently has 4,180 registered members, with OR having over 1000 members and PN having 1500 members respectively.

Discussions and projects since the last convention

1. Zone Championship Meets
 - a. SCM – Alaska LMSC hosted the 2013 SCM Zone Meet on December 14 in Anchorage
 - b. SCY – Pacific Northwest LMSC hosted the 2014 SCY Zone Meet April 12-13 in Federal Way
 - c. Open Water – No Event was held.
 - d. LCM – Oregon LMSC to host the 2013 LCM Zone Meet August 22-24, at Mt Hood
2. Zone Conference Calls: Quarterly Zone calls took place in December, March and July.
3. The Zone is scheduled to provide funding assistance for three delegates from small LMSCs to attend the 2014 USMS Convention in Jacksonville, Florida (one each from Inland Northwest, Snake River, and Montana).
4. The Northwest Zone provided a Club Development Workshop with Bill Brenner Friday August 22, 2014 at Mt. Hood Community College
5. PNA will host a USMS Coach Certification Clinic Level 1 and 2 in the Seattle Area on October 18 followed by a swimmer clinic on October 19th. Bill Brenner and his team will be facilitating. The clinic is open to anyone to attend.

Action items

None

Northwest Zone Agenda Thursday 10:00am-11:00am - City Terrace 8

1. Introductions
2. Old Business
 - a. 2014-15 Zone championship meet update
 - i. 2014 SCM –Oregon LMSC September 26-28, 2014 Grass Valley Aquatic Center Camas, WA.
 - ii. 2015 SCY – Other than Oregon or Pacific Northwest LMSC.

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

- Meet information and entry form due no later than January 15th
- iii. 2015 LCM – Oregon LMSC.
- Meet information and entry form due no later than May 15th
- iv. 2015 OW – Montana LMSC.
- Event information and entry form due no later than May 15th
- v. 2016 SCM – Other than Oregon or Pacific Northwest LMSC.
- Bids due to Zone Chair no later than September 1st
- b. Update on Zone newsletter
- c. Update on Zone conference calls
- d. 2015 Convention - Small LMSCs scheduled for Zone funding assistance
 - i. Utah
 - ii. Alaska
 - iii. Inland Northwest
- 3. New Business
 - a. Election-USMS at-large Director representing the Northwest Zone
 - b. Financial Report – Ken Winterberger
- 4. LMSC Reports (3 minutes each)
 - a. Alaska
 - b. Inland Northwest
 - c. Montana
 - d. Oregon
 - e. Pacific Northwest
 - f. Snake River
 - g. Utah
- 5. USMS Committee Member Reports and Issues
 - a. LMSC SCORECARDS
 - b. Other USMS Committee member reports
- 6. Convention “hot topics” and discussion on Legislation items
- 7. Other Business
- 8. Adjourn

Oceana Zone

Committee Members

Michael Moore, Chair

Oceana Zone includes the Pacific and Hawaii LMSCs. From one end of the zone to the other is over 2,700, miles, the greatest distance of any end to end distance of any LMCS. The committee meets annually at the U.S. Masters Swimming convention and conducts other business as needed by email.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The two LMSCs only share a contiguous ocean. Both are well run LMSCs and have show good year-to-year growth. Hawaii has grown over 5% over last year’s year-end numbers, Pacific is up about 5% on a year to date numbers.. As of the middle of July, there are 11,660 USMS members in the Oceana Zone. Both LMSCs have done well against LMSCs standards and are considered well run organizations.

This year Pacific hosted the USMS 1 Mile Open Water Championships and , the U.S. Masters Swimming Spring Championships were held in Santa Clara. The Spring Championships had the largest number of participants in a National Championships in over 25 years.

Oceana Zone Agenda

Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – Plaza Room

1. Introductions
2. Reports the LMSCs
3. Review of proposed rule changes that may be of interest to the Zone
4. Oceana representation on USMS Committees

USMS Committee Reports and Agendas

5. New Business
6. Adjournment

South Central Zone

Tyler Blessing, Chair

Introduction

This committee meets annually at convention and to conduct zone functions and any business deemed necessary by email during the year. Its members consist of the delegates from the following six LMSC: Arkansas, Border, Gulf, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas.

2013-2014 Report

The zone held pool championship meets in SCY and LCM. There were no open-water zone championships designated.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. 2014 SCY Zone Championship held March 28-30 at The Woodlands CISD Aquatics center (Gulf)
2. 2014 LCM Zone Championships held July 18-20 at Mansfield ISD Natatorium (North Texas)

Action Items

1. Nominate the South Central Zone at-large director for the 2014 election cycle.
2. Select 2015 zone championship hosts and dates.

South Central Zone Agenda Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – City Terrace 11

1. Review and discuss the 2014 zone championship meets.
2. Receive bids for 2015 zone championship meets (SCY and LCM).
3. Select 2015 zone championship hosts (SCY and LCM).
4. Finalize 2014 -2015 calendar
5. Discuss any new business

Southwest Zone

Mary Hull, Chair

Introduction

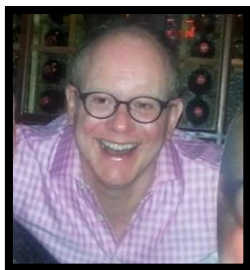
The Southwest Zone includes Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, and the Southern Pacific LMSCs. The committee meets annually at the U.S. Masters Swimming convention and conducts other business as needed by email. All four LMSCs have hosted meets this year. The zone has also had some open water swims.

Southwest Zone Agenda Thursday 10:00am – 11:00am – Grand Ballroom 5

1. Introductions
2. LMSC reports:
 - Arizona
 - New Mexico
 - San Diego Imperial
 - Southern Pacific
3. Zone meets for 2015
4. Zone open water for 2015
5. Old business
6. New business

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Bruce Hopson – Breadbasket Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate is running for re-election and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or a letter of recommendation.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

I first attended the USMS National HOD in 2001 when the meeting was held in Louisville, KY. I have been to every meeting since then.

III. 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 and believe I would be a good candidate because I am in the process of completing my first two-year term. During my first term, I have served on different task forces such as the open water insurance surcharge and the appellate panel for the Board of Review. Additionally, I have been committed to public service for the last twenty years as a practicing attorney. I believe that my almost 40 years of swimming (15 of which as a Master) along with 15 years of bar service on the local, state and national level would make me a good candidate. In addition to my swimming, my background as both a lawyer and a bar leader would allow me to contribute my critical thinking and organizational skills to USMS.

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?

I believe the major issues presently facing USMS will be how to sustain itself and maintain its relevancy in era in which people are becoming more and more reluctant to join organizations. In a similar fashion, USMS will need to figure out how it can be competitive or collaborate with other existing organizations such as USA Triathlon and to stay ahead of organizations not currently around. Finally, I see there will still be a continued focus on how to balance the interests of the fitness swimmer against those of the competitive swimmer.

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:

- Since 2003, I have served on the Long Distance Committee under the leadership of Peter Crumbine, Marcia Cleveland, Heather Hagadorn and now Donn Livoni.
- I have previously been on the legal advisors ad hoc committee under Patti Miller, and the records and tabulations committee under Ed Tsuzuki.

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

I served as president of my club, St. Louis Area Masters Swimming from 2000-2006, and chair of the Ozark LMSC from 2004-2006. Additionally, I was co-president of IGLA from 2005-2006. In the non-swimming world, I served from 2011-2012 as president of the Bar Association of Metropolitan St. Louis, which is a 6,000-member voluntary bar.

Please list any other information you would like included.

None provided.

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

I am seeking re-election to my second term as Director-at-large for the Breadbasket Zone. I believe I would continue to make a good director because I have a long background in swimming as an age group swimmer, an NCAA Division I swimmer and a master swimmer. As an attorney, I would be able to provide needed critical thinking to board discussions. Finally, I have had 15 years of bar leadership experience on the local, state and the American Bar Association.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

David Diehl – Colonies Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Jeff Roddin and received letters of recommendation from Jeff Roddin and Kathy Casey. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

Attended almost every Convention (29) since 1985 (except 2001 & 2005, 9/11 & eye surgery respectively)

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I have almost 40 years of experience with USMS including the first 15 in an LMSC leadership role.

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?

Continued growth of USMS as well as more effective succession management. Work to have the LMSC volunteer base more actively involved and engaged in working toward the strategic planning goals of USMS.

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:

Officials Committee – Hugh Moore Mike Tingley (approx. 15 years and chair for five years);
Rules Committee – June Krauser, Leo Letendre, Kathy Casey (approx. 18 years);
Sports Medicine Committee – Jane Moore (a few years);
Marketing Committee - (one year).

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

Vice President for Programs, four years; At-Large BOD from Colonies Zone, one year. As VP served on the Governance Committee as well as the Volunteer Roles Task Force and sat on a National Board of Review case.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Chair of Potomac Valley LMSC for six years, helped write the PV/LMSC By-Laws in 1980. Also served as Chair of the PVLMSC Officials & Top Ten Committees.

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

Active in USMS for almost 40 years and served in a number of capacities at the national level including the Rules Committee and Officials Committee (Chair for five years). Served as VP for Programs for four years and as an At-Large BOD member for one year. Served as Chair of Potomac Valley LMSC for six years and was on the team that wrote the By-Laws for PV/LMSC. In previous careers was the Chief of Computer Security and Oversight at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Executive Director of the M Club Foundation (non-profit 501c3 corporation in the Athletics Department at the University of Maryland.) I was also a USA-S N3 certified official and have officiated and coached swimming at many levels for over 25 years.

May 28, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to nominate Dave Diehl for the Colonies Zone At-Large Board of Directors position.

I have known Dave since I was in high school. Dave was also the key individual who got me started as a volunteer with USMS by encouraging me to run for the Potomac Valley LMSC Secretary position nearly 20 years ago and then encouraged me to attend my first USAS convention in 1997. Dave has a lifetime of swimming experience across many

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

levels (USMS, high school, NCAA, YMCA, USA Swimming, summer league and Senior Olympics to name a few). In addition to being a lifetime swimmer himself, Dave has been involved with the “dry” side of swimming for over 30 years. Outside of our aquatic world Dave has nearly 35 years of technical experience in the Information Technology field and he was the Executive Director of the M Club Foundation at the University of Maryland for over ten years, which means Dave would bring much more to this position than just USMS experience. For these reasons I am happy to nominate Dave Diehl for an At-Large position on the USMS Board of Directors from the Colonies Zone.

Jeff Roddin
Potomac Valley Registrar

This letter of reference may appear wherever you see fit.

I recommend David Diehl for the office of Colonies Zone At Large Director.

Dave has devoted many years of service to USMS. He has served on a number of USMS Committees, including Officials and Rules. Dave has earned and maintained officials’ certification through USA Swimming and has officiated at many, many USMS meets on all levels and continues that service to USMS as well as other swimming organizations. Therefore, he understands the needs of USMS members from his extensive service on the pool deck.

Dave has a sense of fairness, a sense of humor, a wealth of USMS knowledge, and creative ideas. I have seen him use those skills not only on the Rules and Officials Committees but also as a USMS committee chair and on USMS appeals panels. He remains calm and rational in the face of controversy.

Dave has worked hard on behalf of USMS for many years, upholding the rules of USMS, listening to members’ concerns, and working on the national level to improve USMS services to its members. He is ready to continue his leadership on USMS board of Directors through the office of Colonies Zone At Large Director.

Kathy Casey

USMS has my permission to publish this letter with candidate information. KJC

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Roberta Saint-Amour – Colonies Candidate At-Large



The Election Committee has deemed that *Roberta Saint-Amour* is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Jeff Strahota and received letters of recommendation from Chris Stevenson and Jon Einsidler. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

2009- Chicago USMS Convention
2012- Greensboro, NC USMS Convention
2013- California- Anaheim USMS Convention

III. 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 becoming the Colonies At-Large Director because I want to make a difference in our swimming community. As former Treasurer, Vice Chairman, and current Chairman of Metro LMSC, I have identified and helped to make significant changes within my LMSC. I redefined our goals, priorities and fiscal responsibilities. I currently hear many of the same issues, concerns and questions voiced at convention, peer-to-peer conference calls and amongst volunteers in general throughout USMS. My experiences within Metro LMSC will allow me to contribute for the benefit and welfare of all.

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?

Communication. I have personally felt the frustration of our communication system. I realize that as an all-volunteer network, everyone prioritizes the responsibility differently. Holding an elected USMS position I will try to unify volunteers by amping up our communication.

This has been a central concern at Metro. When 99% of our individual swimmers AND clubs, did not know who or what our LMSC is or the functions of USMS, we knew we had problems. We need better succession education starting with USMS. We need to establish LMSC/USMS protocol for information and questions that need to trickle down to our individual swimmers. We need a reference site for LMSCs to compare activity. We need a secure and safe site to co-mingle ideas and questions. The peer-to-peers calls have been great and the forums are a good start, but we need to go further. We need to involve viable volunteers.

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:

I served for a year on the Long Distance Open Water committee in 2010. I served under Heather Hagadorn. However, we faced many problems within the Metro LMSC that I had to devote my time and resources to bettering our LMSC first; so I stepped away from volunteering on a larger scale within the USMS organization, until now.

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

After graduating from Wellesley College I went to work on Wall Street for the last 7 years specializing in mergers and acquisitions for multimillion dollar transactions. I have been given large responsibility beyond my years to lead companies through important transitions. My work experience will only help guide me with taking on important issues within the USMS organization.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I know I can make a difference within our organization! I am fresh, young and willing to take the necessary steps to making our USMS community the best it could be!

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

It would be an honor and a privilege to serve as the Colonies At-Large Director. My broad base of swimming and leadership experiences, reflects a majority of master swimmers and will allow me to represent them with realistic concerns, problem solving abilities and positivity.

I am currently the youngest LMSC Chairman and was first elected Metro LMSC Treasurer at 22 directly from college. I was elected Vice Chair and am currently Chairman. While I honor all of our volunteers for their wealth and depth of information and experience, I see a lack of participation in my age group. I believe that I can represent the younger generation and bring the needs and concerns of this age group into USMS for broader inclusion.

Serving on the Metro BOD was not my first experience with USMS. My Dad, Craig Saint-Amour has been a master swimmer since after college, and as a child, I cheered for him and volunteered as a timer in many events including Worlds. My Dad encouraged my love for swimming and competition since I was 6 years old. I swam through USS/USA, High School, Maccabis, and college. It was a natural progression for me to join masters. I jumped right in and started achieving USMS Top ten and All-American rankings. My career started to become more demanding of my time and I was forced to change my focus to fitness swimming. This gives me the rare ability to understand the needs of both the competition swimmers and the fitness swimmers and represent them both fairly.

My function on the Metro Board allowed me to pinpoint areas that were not working effectively. I am proud of the changes that we were able to make in our LMSC including a total revision of our By-Laws and FOG. Today, we have an inclusive Board that represents a broader base of our clubs. We have successfully increased club numbers, membership, readership of our newsletter, attendance at our events and volunteerism. I feel that through open and honest communication, I can share these same ideas to better our swimming community.

I hope that you will vote for me and allow me to continue contributing to the sport I love. Thank you.

Re: Nominations for At Large Directors

Dear Election Committee,

I would like to nominate Roberta C. Saint-Amour for the At Large Director position from the Colonies Zone.

Thank you,

Jeff Strahota, Potomac Valley LMSC

Attention: Cheryl Gettelfinger, chair USMS Elections Committee

I am pleased to write a letter in support of the nomination of **Roberta (RC) Saint-Amour** as at-large director from the Colonies Zone. RC first became involved with the administrative side of USMS as the Metro LMSC Treasurer in 2008, followed by stints as vice-chair (2011) and chair (2012), her current position.

Although I am not a member of Metro, I have dealt with RC over the past year in my role as VP of Local Operations. RC is passionate about swimming and has proven her dedication to expanding the services that her LMSC provides for its members. She has also participated in several webinars produced by the LMSC Development Committee, evidence of her desire to collaborate with leaders from other LMSCs and use knowledge thus gained to improve her LMSC.

Chris Stevenson

VA LMSC Top 10 Recorder and Webmaster

USMS VP of Local Operations

Note: I consent to publishing this letter.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

April 28, 2014

To whom it may concern:

I recommend RC Saint-Amour for Zone Colonies Director because she has done a remarkable job in turning around Metropolitan LMSC from a highly problematic and insular LMSC into one that is swimmer-oriented with participation from a broad spectrum of teams, age groups, and geography in our LMSC.

For the dozen or so years prior to RC becoming Chair, a handful of people ran Metro for their own benefit. There was no reaching out to other teams, the number of swimming events declined, as did the participation at the remaining ones. This handful of officers received salaries from Metro as well as a monthly stipend for phone expenses whether for Metro or personal. Annual meetings, when they were held, had less than ten people. Convention delegate selection was a handful of friends planning a road trip. Huge amounts of t-shirts, towels, flip flops and medals were bought as giveaways for meets but were used for only a few select meets, and a storage facility was rented to hold this inventory.

The change under RC is nothing short of remarkable. She asked me to become secretary a little over a year ago. My first exposure was at the semi annual meeting (yes we had a semi annual meeting). RC had reached out to all teams, and I was blown away at the turn out. Nearly 50 members representing over 20 teams showed up. I saw people I had not seen in years. The agenda laid out the road map that would end up getting accomplished over the following six months. From her discussions with swimmers, she found out what they truly wanted. Here are some of the things accomplished:

- insurance surcharge from USMS for open water events was picked up by Metro to keep entry fees low
- program was set up for meet directors to provide a budget and Metro would provide a stipend to lower entry fees by \$5 per swimmer for pool events
- clinics were put on with Metro subsidizing over 75% of the cost
- complete rewrites of the by-laws, financial operating guidelines, and general procedures
- convention delegate selection was transparent with accountability for delegates in writing reports when they returned along with tight budget restrictions on expenses
- stipends provided to individual teams to help their programs (required application with uses)
- regular newsletter, socials after meets/open water, annual party
- record turn outs for open water swims and pool meets

These were accomplished by doing away with salaries and benefits for officers (other than registrar and top ten), better controls on expenses at convention. Also using up the excess inventory by giving it away at meets and selling the balance allowed Metro to get rid of the storage facility. Metro is now providing programs for its members that are second to none. RC is also an active participant in the USMS conference calls.

Sincerely,

Jon Einsidler, Vice Chairman, Metro

You have my permission to publish this letter.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Sean Fitzgerald – Dixie Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Lisa Watson and received letters of recommendation from Lisa Watson and Rob Copeland. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

I have attended all USMS HOD Meetings from 2000 - 2013.

III. Section Three: Questions

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

After serving as Legislation Chair from 2005 until 2013, a move to serve on the Board of Directors seems like a logical progression. As Chair of the Legislation Committee, I have been an ex-officio member of the Rules Committee. During my tenure, USMS has also split the Long Distance and Open Water Committees. I was involved in the changes to Part 3 of the Rule Book during that time. I was also a member of the Legislation Committee when Part 4 was added. That experience gives me great understanding of the way USMS is governed. Finally, my participation on the Governance Committee has given me insight into the workings of the Board of Directors and some of the long term issues and Strategic plans of the organization.

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?

I think that maintaining the balance of work between the Central Office Staff and our strong volunteer base continues to be an issue. As our membership grows, so does the HOD. At the same time, more of the volunteer positions are being transitioned to the Central Office Staff. This gives us fewer opportunities to engage our volunteers on a national basis throughout the year. We also need a long term plan for the growth of Open Water Swimming. The insurance issue raised this year will be slow to go away, if it ever does. We need to find additional sources of funding not only for Open Water Swims, but for the entire organization.

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:

2000 – 2007 International Committee: June Krauser and Mary Pohlmann served as chair
2003 – 2005 Legislation Committee, Rob Copeland served as chair
2005 – 2013 Legislation Committee Chair
2014 Legislation Committee, Meg Smath serves as chair
2009 – 2013 Governance Committee: Patty Miller, Anthony Thompson, Hugh Moore served as chair
2005 – 2013 Rules Committee ex-officio: Kathy Casey served as chair

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

I have been serving as vice chair of the GA LMSC since 1998. That same year, I was elected Treasurer of International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics for two 2 year terms. In 2003 I was elected as co-chair then co-president of IGLA. In 2005, I was the Meet Director for the 2005 IGLA Championships held at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center, organizing the events for Diving, Water Polo, Synchronized Swimming as well as Masters Swimming. After taking a year off, I was elected to be one of IGLA's representatives to the Federation of Gay Games. In 2008, I became the Secretary of the FGGA where I served until last year. I am currently the Vice President of Operations for the FGGA.

Please list any other information you would like included.

None Provided.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

I am excited to have the opportunity to run for a position on the Board of Directors for United States Masters Swimming. I have been a member of the Legislation Committee for 11 years, including 8 as chair. I have a thorough understanding of the committee structure of USMS. As Chair of Legislation, I was an ex-officio member of the Rules Committee. I also worked with the Open Water and Long Distance Committees as they separated their duties and created a new Part 3 of the Rule Book. On a local level, I acted as meet director for the 2005 IGLA Championships, bringing nearly 1000 athletes to the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center. I was also involved in the 2010 USMS Short Course National Championships, hosted by the Georgia LMSC. I believe I would be an asset to the Board as USMS continues to expand and create new opportunities for adult swimming.

I look forward to joining the Board of Directors of USMS.

Attention: Cheryl Gettelfinger 4/8/14
Chair –USMS Election Committee

Dear Cheryl:

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Sean Fitzgerald for the position of Dixie Zone representative to the Board of Directors. Sean has been an active member of our Georgia LMSC and Dixie Zone for many years. He has successfully served as our Vice Chair for 16 years, and during that time has proven to be a valued member of our LMSC Board of Directors. He participates in our monthly conference calls and bi-annual meetings, serves as meet director for our state SCM championship meet as well as another SCY meet, and has created a yearly 'Grand Prix' series for our Georgia swimmers which has proven to be very popular.

In addition to contributions in our Georgia LMSC, Sean has also become a valuable asset to USMS on the national level. Sean has served on various national committees and recently served as Chair of the Legislation Committee for 8 years. This position has obviously required numerous hours of service not just at convention, but throughout each year. Sean is currently serving as Vice Chair to the Legislation Committee. His administrative experience at both the state and national level certainly makes him an excellent candidate for a Director position. I am delighted to endorse his candidacy for Dixie Zone Director, and give my permission for this letter to be advertised to our USMS delegates.

Sincerely,

Lisa Watson
Chair- Georgia LMSC

Rob Copeland
April 23, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Election Committee Chair
U.S. Masters Swimming

It is my honor to write this letter of recommendation for Sean Fitzgerald as U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors, from the Dixie Zone.

I believe Sean possesses the critical skills, aptitude and experience to serve as a contributing member of our leadership team. While chairing the Legislation Committee for 8 years, Sean developed a deeper understanding of how USMS is governed by our bylaws and how they fit to form the foundation of USMS. Equally as important to understanding the organization and structure of USMS; Sean possesses leadership skills which provide him with the ability to be a key stakeholder in establishing our strategic vision and then turning that vision into reality.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Beyond his institutional knowledge and leadership, Sean continues to be a role model of volunteer spirit; in the 16 years I've known him; Sean has and continues to demonstrate this spirit within his club, the GA-LMSC, USMS and across the broader aquatic community. I am confident this spirit will continue to shine as Sean steps up to the next level of service leadership.

I believe Sean will be active and committed to promoting health, wellness, fitness and competition for adults through swimming and keeping USMS the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the United States.

I recommend Sean without reservation to serve as a member of the U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors.

Very truly yours,

Rob C

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert H Copeland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "R" at the beginning.

p.s. The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Dan Cox – Great Lakes Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Barb Delanois and received letters of recommendation from Laura Groselle and Paige Buehler, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

2003 San Diego, 2004 Orlando FL, 2005 Greensboro NC, 2006 Dearborn, MI, 2007 Anaheim CA, 2008 Atlanta GA, 2009 Chicago IL, 2010 Dallas TX, 2011 Jacksonville, FL, 2012 Greensboro NC, 2013 Anaheim CA

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I have been involved with Masters swimming for over 15 years and have enjoyed serving USMS in many capacities. My service started with volunteering at the 2002 long course meet in Cleveland, Ohio. From 2004 till present, I was elected president of Ohio Masters Swim Club, Lake Erie LMSC chairman, and currently hold the position as Great Lakes Zone Chair. These positions gave me the opportunity to learn about USMS, improve, enhance and develop the membership experience through creating programs such as our coaches program. This program pays coaches to get continuing education to become better Masters Coaches. To help our young future Masters swimmers, I implemented our college program that discounts the cost to all our college students in order to get them introduced to USMS "brand". To better serve all swimmers and to foster a club atmosphere, I changed the format of one of our local meets in which every swimmer no matter their ability would have the opportunity to compete. This meet to this day is the most attended of all the meets in the Lake Erie LMSC each year, and consistently attracts the most first times to a Masters meet. To further enhance the ability to connect members, I was also instrumental in developing and launching the OHIO Masters web site.

Through my years of service to the USMS, I have developed a unique background and understanding of the mission of USMS, which will be required of an effective member of The National Board of Directors.

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?

Open Water: One of the major issues facing USMS today is the insurance charge for open water swimming. Due to the large fee that has been passed on from the LMSC to the open water events, we have seen a dramatic drop in open water events. This trend will continue until the fee structure is altered or changed. There are several ways to address this issue. One is to have a small meet charge placed on every swimmer who enters a swim meet. This would spread out the cost of the increase in insurance over all swimmers who enter meets, not just open water. Another option would be for USMS to cover more of the cost and to look to secure more cost effective insurance premiums.

Membership: Membership is another important issue facing USMS. In order to improve membership, we need to engage our 60,000+ members. No one sells USMS better than one of our members. In order to do this we need to create an incentive. I would propose to set up an "ambassador club" in which any member who sponsors a new member into USMS would become a member of this club. A letter of thanks would be sent out from the president of USMS along with a luggage tag or some other small token of appreciation. By implementing this type of reward system we turn our 60,000+ members into a national sale force team. I could see offering special enrollment times in November where we offer some larger rewards for the top 5 recruiters of members.

This program would be the incentive for people to talk to other people about USMS and reward those that got people to join, as well as helping USMS grow.

Branding: I would like to see USMS take more of a lead role in working with the colleges to foster club swimming under the USMS banner. It is important that we get our brand out early in these young adults. As they graduate and move around the country settling into a new life, USMS should be their one connection anywhere in the country to find new friends and people who share a common interest. We can take the lead by offering to sponsor workout groups at major colleges or club meets. USMS could also offer them special pricing on membership as an incentive to join. These people are the future of USMS and getting in early and exposing them to USMS is imperative in developing our sport.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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:

- Legislation Committee: January 2004-present - Sean Fitzgerald
- National Board of Review: 2013-present - Barbara Delanois
- LMSC Development Committee: 2010-present - Paige Buehler
- Election Committee: 2012 - Michael Moore
- Communications Committee: January 2004-2009 - Hugh Moore

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

- Heights Driving School Inc., Cleveland Ohio September 1983 – to present
Chief Executive Officer
- Directly oversees forty five employees
 - Develop curriculum for teaching teenage, adult, remedial and disabled drivers.
 - Developed an online scheduling system and web page
 - Manage all the payroll and company accounts

Please list any other information you would like included.

- Recipient of the 2011 Dorothy Donnelly Service Award
- Ohio State University bachelor of arts degree: Business/ Education
- Louisiana State University: disabilities certification
- Board Certified Driving Rehabilitation Specialist

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

I have been involved with Masters swimming for over 15 years and have enjoyed serving USMS in many capacities. My service started with volunteering at the 2002 long course meet in Cleveland, Ohio. From 2004 till present, I was elected president of Ohio Masters Swim Club, Lake Erie LMSC chairman, and currently hold the position as Great Lakes Zone Chair. These positions gave me the opportunity to learn about USMS, improve, enhance and develop the membership experience through creating programs such as our coaches program. This program pays coaches to get continuing education to become better Masters Coaches. To help our young future Masters swimmers, I implemented our college program that discounts the cost to all our college students in order to get them introduced to the USMS "brand". To better serve all swimmers and to foster a club atmosphere, I changed the format of one of our local meets in which every swimmer no matter their ability would have the opportunity to compete. This meet to this day is the most attended of all the meets in the Lake Erie LMSC each year, and consistently attracts the most first timers to a masters meet. To further enhance the ability to connect members, I was also instrumental in developing and launching the OHIO Masters web site.

I not only bring the depth of background from all the different positions I have held in USMS, but also run a business with forty five employees in which I'm involved in every aspect of marketing, logistics and financing. My background in swimming and business has given me the unique ability to understand both the business side of USMS as well as the relationships between our Zones, LMSC, Clubs and most importantly our members.

Barbara Delanois

February 20, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair of Election Committee Elections@usms.org

Dear Cheryl:

It is my honor to nominate Daniel Cox for the At-Large member of the USMS Board of Directors from the Great Lakes Zone.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Very Truly,

/s/ _____

Barbara L. Delanois, Chair
National Board of Review

April 17, 2014

Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair
Election Committee
U.S. Masters Swimming

Dear Cheryl:

I am privileged to write this letter of reference for Dan Cox, a nominee to serve on the Board of Directors for United States Masters Swimming. Dan's volunteer experience at the local, regional and national levels has prepared him to serve well in this capacity.

Dan has taken on volunteer roles at every level in USMS, including local leadership positions as well as his current role as the Great Lakes Zone Chair. Dan has developed unique programs at every level that have enhanced the membership's experience. Dan has had extensive experience with running local and national USMS events that have all been successful.

Dan has a healthy work ethic which is reflected in his commitment to his own business. He brings his business experience to the table which will help with USMS strategic initiatives. Dan will tactfully share his experience and his opinions and will always provide a constructive and positive direction in the discussions.

I see Dan providing USMS with a lot of creative solutions to issues. Dan has a clear understanding of the organization from the bottom to the top and has many ideas that he will bring forward. Dan's enthusiasm is infectious and he is a pleasure to work with. You may publish this recommendation letter.

Dan would be a valuable member of the USMS Board of Directors and I highly recommend him.

Sincerely,
Laura Groselle

Paige Buehler
swim@galacticnorth.net

Esteemed Elections Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Daniel Cox to the House of Delegates as a candidate for the position of At-Large Director of the Board. He has served on the LMSC Development Committee for several years taking an active role in the Mentoring subcommittee as the Great Lakes Zone Chair.

Daniel would be a valuable member of the Board because he steps up to challenges and projects. He has played an active role on the LMSC Development Committee's Education subcommittee by always taking his share, and more, of the tasks at hand. He is great on special and cyclical projects, such as the convention workshops. In 2013, Daniel was key in researching and contacting presenters for the volunteer workshop held at convention.

Another reason why I'd recommend Daniel is because he is very adept at listening to the various points of view and contributing to the conversations. He synthesizes information well and can identify the general sentiment of a group to know how to present his ideas and potential solutions. For example, as our committee struggled with how to go about unearthing "best practices" from all the LMSCs in all the volunteer roles, Daniel suggested we start by using the forums to solicit them as opposed to making phone calls, a time commitment many of the committee members were wary about. Daniel's interactive and positive approach makes him a valuable asset in various roles within a group, among them fact-finder, liaison, devil's-advocate and supporter. He comfortably wears the hats of all his volunteer roles and uses the experience gained to help move U.S. Masters Swimming forward as an organization.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

I highly recommend Daniel Cox for the position of At-Large Director and invite the Elections Committee to publish this letter in his support.

Sincerely,

Paige Buehler, Chair, LMSC Development Committee

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors



Ralph Davis – Great Lakes Candidate At-Large

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

The candidate was nominated by Phil Dodson and received letters of recommendation from Phil Dodson and Tom Boak, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

**The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:
Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:**

1999 September 15-19 San Diego, CA
2000 October 11-15 Kissimmee, FL
2001 November 15-18 Louisville, KY
2002 September 11-15 Dallas/Fort Worth
2003 September 10-14 San Diego, CA
2004 September 15-19 Orlando, FL
2006 September 13-17 Dearborn, MI
2007 September 26-30 Anaheim, CA
2008 September 24-28 Atlanta, GA
2009 September 16-20 Chicago, IL
2010 September 15-19 Dallas, TX
2011 September 14-18 Jacksonville, FL
2012 September 12-16 Greensboro, NC
2013 September 11-15 Anaheim, CA

III. 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 *Great Lakes Zone Director position* because of my love for Masters swimming and my desire to serve USMS in a capacity that I am professionally qualified.

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting, financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multi-national corporation to company start-ups and business consulting. I have managed domestic and international financial operations coupled with developing local and worldwide strategies for their performance. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, combining diverse cultural and differing traditions to achieve corporate objectives. I believe that I can continue to provide a fresh and unique perspective to the *Great Lakes Zone Director* position. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the position's requirements. **I'm confident I can continue to add value** to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve *Great Lakes Zone Director*.

I have served on the Finance Committee for 15 years, and two years as the Chairman. I have been USMS Treasurer for 4 years, consequently, I am well versed with the financial and operations of USMS. I am currently Chair of the Investment Committee and member of the Audit Committee.

My current career status enables great flexibility to serve USMS. I have a passion to volunteer my time at this stage of my life to give something back for all that I have obtained. I feel fortunate to have received a gift of life when I acquired my transplanted heart in February 2006.

Education qualifications:

Master of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1970

Bachelor of Business Administration, Western Michigan University, 1969

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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?

1. Engage new volunteers and develop new leaders for USMS. We must determine how we are going to get new volunteers involved in the organization and develop them to become the future leadership. We need to develop a program specific to local LMSCs that encourages new members to attend the national convention and become more willingly involved in our organization. We may need to assist certain LMSCs with funding, but we need to have a precise USMS program that supports getting new faces to our convention. If we avoid setting a proactive agenda to this issue, I believe it may become increasingly difficult to acquire adequate leadership for the future success of USMS.

2. Organization structure for the guidance of USMS. We embarked on a new era for USMS in 2009 hiring a new Executive Director, established its National Office in Sarasota, Florida and implemented a new 5 Year plan for the organization. We are in an excellent financial position as an organization after our first Five Year Plan. We grew membership from 48,310 to 59,063.

The Board has the Challenge of a new five year plan (2015-2019) for the organization. USMS has developed a great strategic plan for USMS, but now Corporate Office with the support of the Board, need to develop the operation tactics to lay the foundation to achieve our strategic plan that supports a goal of growing to 100,000 members. I look forward to the opportunity of helping support the Strategic Plan and the mission of USMS.

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:

I have served on the Finance Committee since 2000. My Committee chairs have been Doug Church, Jeff Moxie, Tom Boak, and currently Chair Jeanne Ensign. I was Vice-Chair under Tom Boak. I was the Chairman of the Finance Committee 2007 to 2009.

I have been a member of the Audit Committee since its formation in 2009. The first Chair was Jill Gellatly and second and current Chair is Elyce Dilworth.

I have been a member of the Investment Committee since its formation in 2009. Dave Burgio was the Chair from 2009 to September of 2013. I am the current Investment Committee Chair.

I served on the Executive Committee from 2009 to 2013. The Chairs of the committee were Jeff Moxie and Nadine Day.

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

I have enjoyed two careers; my first as finance executive of Federal-Mogul (23 years) with direct responsibility for all financial activities of diverse manufacturing businesses in the United States and 12 foreign countries generating \$600 million in sales. I possess extensive experience in managing global financial staffs, analyzing and monitoring individual unit performance, developing local and worldwide strategies, organizing joint venture/licensing agreements, managing foreign exchange exposure, directing treasury function at international locations and counseling the Group President as well as the location General Managers. I recruited and trained highly successful Directors of Finance for eight foreign subsidiaries.

My second career involves administering and operating a management and financial consulting company of which I have co-ownership. My financial consulting company server industry on domestic and international projects led and managed a number of successful business turnarounds and started up a high-tech pharmaceutical venture. Thru My consulting Company for the last 7 years, I have managed and directed the operations of a software company with operations in India and the United States.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Age 67, excellent health, new heart, married 48 years, three daughters and five grandchildren.

Hobbies: competitive swimming, golf, and financial advising.

Treasurer, Michigan LMSC, 1997 to 2007

Vice-Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2007 to 2009

Chair, Michigan LMSC, 2009 to 2011

Chair, Michigan Masters Swimming Endowment Committee 2008 to Present

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

I am a senior finance executive with over 35 years of experience in accounting and financial management. My scope of career experience ranges from working for a large multinational corporation to start-ups and business consulting. I have managed both domestic and international financial operations. I have served on Boards of Directors of various corporations, both domestic and international, bringing diverse cultural and differing traditions together to achieve corporate goals.

I believe that I can continue to bring a fresh and unique perspective to USMS as Great Lakes Zone Director. My International Board experience should complement the responsibilities of the Great Lakes Zone Director position's requirements. I firmly believe I can continue to add value to USMS and look forward to the opportunity to serve as Great Lakes Zone Director.

Phil Dodson
USMS Treasurer

MYFAVCPA@aol.com

April 29, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger

Chair of the Election Committee Elections@usms.org

Dear Cheryl,

I am writing to nominate and highly recommend Ralph Davis for Great Lakes Zone Director of United States Masters Swimming, a seat on the Board of Directors of United States Masters Swimming. Ralph is uniquely qualified for this position because of his 35 years professional experience in accounting and financial management coupled with 14 years of volunteer experience with USMS in the Finance, Audit and Investment Committees, including Chairmanships and 4 years as USMS Treasurer. He has been very active locally, as a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Michigan LMSC. His continued involvement in USMS is an asset to the corporation. He brings valuable business insight and perspectives with an understanding of how things get done in a volunteer board. Ralph will do an excellent job as a member of our Board of Directors.

Ralph has served me personally as a mentor for USMS, first as Chair of the Finance Committee and then as Treasurer of USMS. He assisted me and prepared my way from Finance Committee member, to member of the Board and finally as Treasurer of USMS. It is a pleasure for me to heartily recommend, without reservation, his nomination for Great Lakes Zone Director of United States Masters Swimming.

His honesty, loyalty, creativity, and experience will serve our organization well. I look forward to having him once again as a fellow Board of USMS.

Yours Truly,

Phil Dodson
USMS Treasurer

The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

April 19, 2014

To: Ms. Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair of the Election Committee

Elections@usms.org

Dear Cheryl:

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

I am writing to recommend Ralph Davis for Great Lakes Zone Director. Ralph has had varied experience in the corporate world, primarily in the area of Finance and has held numerous seats on Boards of Directors. He has also served United States Masters Swimming in a number of different positions, including member, Vice Chair and Chair of the Finance Committee and USMS Treasurer. He has been very active locally, as a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Michigan LMSC. His continued involvement in USMS is an asset to the corporation and he would do an excellent job as a member of the Board of Directors.

Yours truly,

Tom Bo

The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

CJ Rushman – Great Lakes Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Meg Smath and received letters of recommendation from Meg Smath and Timothy Hart, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

1998 – Cincinnati, Ohio
2001 – Louisville, Kentucky
2002 – Dallas, Texas
2004 – Orlando, Florida
2005 – Greensboro, North Carolina
2006 – Dearborn, Michigan
2007 – Anaheim, California
2009 – Chicago, Illinois
2010 – Dallas, Texas
2011 – Jacksonville, Florida
2012 – Greensboro, North Carolina
2013 - Anaheim, California

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I believe that the leadership experience I have gained in the corporate world combined with the experience of serving USMS will make a good combination for providing leadership to the organization. My background in compliance and project management within managing organizations, both large and small, through periods of change will be of great value in the role of Great Lakes Zone At Large Director as USMS continues to move through its current period of change. I have been very involved with USMS for the past four years as Corporate Secretary and I would like to continue to contribute more as a member of the Board of Directors.

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?

Probably the most crucial issue is dealing with growing pains as our organization expands. As membership is increasing, managing the day-to-day operations has become more complex. As we are continuing to transition from a volunteer based organization to a business with a paid leadership staff, we have some hurdles to overcome with some elements of the general membership. Attention must be paid to the varying levels of participation types, whether or not it fits into personal goals, aiming for the success of the organization as a whole.

At the same time, we must not alienate our core membership—growth for growth's sake will wind up disappointing both current and future members. Increasing our membership must be an outgrowth of us getting the message out that USMS has something to offer for everyone. In other words, marketing our brand is absolutely fundamental. We need to tell the outside world about ourselves. We also need to listen to what the active adult population is asking for, and if necessary and feasible, be willing to adapt to meet those needs. And we need to provide more services to our non-competitive members, while maintaining our commitment to those who do compete. If elected, I would gather and evaluate information, and make appropriate recommendations and decisions.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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:

- USMS Corporate Secretary served from 2009-2013.
- Information Technology (IT) Liaison to the Board of Directors – Oversaw the production of the development of the In-house registration system for USMS.
- Ex-Officio to Coaches Committee – 2012 – present. Served under Scott Bay.
- Championship Committee, 2002 – 2009. Served under Mark Moore. Meet Liaison to USMS Short Course Nationals at University of Texas, Austin TX 2008.
- Communications Committee, 2001–2003.
- Publications Committee (previously Rule Book Committee), 2002–2009 Served under Meg Smath and Susan Ehringer.

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

- Swim Kentucky Masters Team President: 2009 – present
- KY LMSC Secretary: 2013 – present
- Ohio LMSC Chair: 2001-2007
- Ohio LMSC Secretary: 1999-2007
- Ohio LMSC Vice Chair: 2009 – 2013
- Ohio LMSC Fitness and Safety Officer: 2007-2009
- Founder and President of Anderson Barracuda Masters (Cincinnati Ohio) 1996- present.
- Served as meet director for both the winter AB Invitational and the summer Splash and Dash meet.
- YMCA- USA-certified swimming official; serving as referee, and stroke and turn judge. Also worked numerous Masters and high school meets in Cincinnati.
- American Swimming Coaches Association/USMS Certified Coach Level 3

Please list any other information you would like included.

- Developed and Editor of Team Newsletter as well OHIO LMSC newsletter, The Starting Block.
- Age Group Coach – Anderson Barracudas/ M.E. Lyons YMCA Represented Team as Public Relations contact with news media.
- Swam collegiately at the University of Cincinnati.(1989-1994)
- Served in the United States Military, 10 years of Active duty and reserve duty combined.

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

Swimming has been a major part of my life for over 30 years. I have continually served my team, LMSCs (KY & OH), and USMS for nearly 20 years.

March 28, 2014
Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair, USMS Election Committee

Dear Cheryl,

I am pleased to nominate C.J. Rushman for the position of Great Lakes Zone Director.

I have known C.J. since he attended Nationals with his new Kentucky teammates for the first time in Ann Arbor in 1996. By the time those Nationals ended, I felt like I had known C.J. for decades rather than days. He is easy-going, pleasant, and willing to work hard. He cheerfully plunged right into helping put together relays, a thankless job if there ever was one, and has continued to help with this and many other tasks ever since. Whenever I have asked C.J. to help, and whatever I have asked him to help with, he has done it without hesitation. And as his résumé shows, he has helped with a wide range of tasks.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

C.J. is president of Swim Kentucky Masters and has been an integral part of our club's success, both at Nationals and back home on the local level. He is secretary of the Kentucky LMSC, and as chair of the LMSC, I have had an excellent working relationship with him as we have gone about the LMSC's business. He is always there, always on time, and always completes his tasks quickly, yet thoroughly. Our LMSC could not ask for a better officer.

He has excellent organizational skills, which have served him well in his duties, but in my mind, his greatest attribute is his ability to work with and get along with everybody. I have honestly never met anyone who doesn't like him!

When I was nearing the end of my final term as USMS secretary, I asked C.J. if he would consider running to succeed me. I knew he would be a tremendous asset for the organization, and that certainly proved to be the case. He still had that desire to serve at the end of his two terms as secretary, and so the Great Lakes Zone put forward his name to the Board of Directors for appointment to serve the final year of Phil Dodson's term after Phil was elected treasurer of USMS last year. As expected, C.J. has done a wonderful job as a director, and is most deserving of being elected to a full term. I wholeheartedly recommend him for this position and look forward to his continued contributions at all levels of USMS.

I give my permission for this letter to be published in the HOD packet.

Sincerely,
Meg Smath

25 March 2014

To: USMS Election committee

Subject: Recommendation for CJ Rushman as Great Zone At-Large Director Position

CJ Rushman has been my primary source of information and knowledge in Masters swimming for the last seven years. Ever since I first joined in Masters swimming, CJ has always been there to give me great information based on years and years of swimming knowledge and Masters Experience. He has embodied what every Masters swimmer should become.

He has every intention of swimming until his dying day. He wants nothing else but to swim and have fun doing it. He wants everyone around him to understand and feel the experiences he's had in Masters swimming. He knows that Masters swimming is the best and most enjoyable way to stay fit and active as we all grow older. He loves training in the water, he loves racing in the water, he loves to coach on deck, and he loves participating in USMS administration beyond the pool. His positive attitude and knowledge of how USMS administration works was the main reason I have enjoyed conducting Masters Administration in Ohio.

His ability to inspire new and old Masters Swimmers and his ability to increase everyone's enjoyment in swimming are his best traits. He has inspired me to become a better Masters participant through a positive attitude and through a strong desire to help others enjoy it. He knows that it's just not about performance in the water. He knows that Masters swimming is about staying fit and having fun while doing it.

He knows that it's about the special relationships we forge with other USMS members. There should be no question in CJ's motivation and enjoyment in USMS. We should all strive to enjoy Masters swimming like CJ. Once he sees a solution, he will move forward quickly to get the job done right. The Great Lakes Zone At-Large Director position is a busy job and CJ has the background and motivation to do it with success.

I give my permission for this letter to be published in the HOD packet.

Sincerely,

Timothy Hart

Tim Hart
Director of Competitive Swimming
M.E. Lyons YMCA
Cincinnati, OH 45230

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Sarah Welch – Northwest Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Lisa Dahl and received letters of recommendation from Kathy Casey and Sean Fitzgerald in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

I attended all USMS/USAS National Conventions from 2003 in San Diego through Anaheim in 2013 as a delegate of the Pacific Northwest (PNA) LMSC. I attended all the HOD meetings convened during the 11 USMS Conventions which I attended.

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I will bring a focus on the 'big picture' and will contribute to the strategic direction for USMS as an At Large Director. My goal is to make sure that we communicate among all levels of the organization and work to strengthen relations among LSMC's and the national organization. I am convinced that by sharing interests and best practices and communicating effectively, we can provide real value to our members. I'm committed identifying and mentoring future leaders throughout the organization to make sure we remain a healthy and sustainable organization into the future. .

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?

USMS is still evolving from 'all-volunteer' to the National Office model. The respective roles and relationships remain 'works in progress'. The strength of our organization rests on the success of the relationships among LMSC's, committee volunteers and the National Office and I am committed to working on this issue.

I am also committed to developing and mentoring USMS' future leaders. We can do a better job in identifying future leaders, mentoring them and offering opportunities and experience so the BOD going forward is representative of our entire organization.

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:

Finance Committee member from 2003 (post-convention) to present:

- Committee Member under Tom Boak, Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis, Homer Lane and Jeanne Ensign
- Vice Chair of Finance Committee from 2006 to 2012 (under Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis and Homer Lane)

Comp and Benefits Committee member from its inception in 2008 to present:

- Committee Member under Nadine Day and Ed Coates
- Chair of the Comp and Benefits Committee from 2012 to 2013
- Vice Chair of the Comp and Benefits Committee in 2014 under Chair Ed Coates.
- Liaison between Comp and Benefits and Finance Committee (informal role from 2009-present)

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

I worked as an executive for the City of Seattle for 30 years with a focus on finance, management, human resources administration, program development and program management. After a 7 year consulting stint, I retired (for real, this time!) this past December, giving me the time and energy to undertake such a commitment as a BOD role will require.

I work as a volunteer maintaining local parks and open space and for a local parks facility. And, I continue to volunteer with Masters swimming at the club and LMSC levels.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Please list any other information you would like included.

USMS Member since 1992: Pacific Northwest Aquatics (PNA) now known as Puget Sound Masters

- National Top Ten finisher
- World Record Holder: relay
- National Record Holder: individual and relay
- LMSC Record holder
- Coordinator: swimmer and coach clinics, PNA LMSC for 11 years
- Volunteer Coordinator: Short Course Nationals Federal Way 1997 and 2007
- President: Puget Sound Masters, a 1300+ member regional Club 2013 to present
- Board Member PNA LMSC 1997 to present
- Recipient: Dorothy Donnelly Service Award 2008

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

I volunteer with USMS to give back to the sport that has given so much to me. I have participated at the national level in a variety of roles for the past decade and locally for nearly 20 years. At our LMSC and Zone levels we have not been particularly effective at mentoring and developing our younger members for leadership roles and I am committed to working locally and at the national level to make sure we are developing young talent for the future.

April 19, 2014

To USMS Nominations Committee and House of Delegates

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger, Elections@usms.org

I am writing to nominate Sarah Welch for the At-Large Director position in the Northwest Zone for the upcoming election to be held during the USMS Annual meeting in September, 2014.

Sincerely,

Lisa Dahl,

Pacific Northwest Association PNA President

Kathy Casey, PNA LMSC

Chair, USMS Rules Committee

April 29, 2014

Dear House of Delegates,

I am writing to recommend Sarah Welch as a candidate for the At Large Director from the Pacific Northwest Zone. I have known Sarah as a fellow swimmer and as a volunteer for more than twenty years and highly recommend as a member of the USMS Board of Directors.

Since volunteering locally for PNA, Sarah has been involved consistently and contributed to its ongoing success. Her professional background in finance and administration and her personal interest in fitness and swimming combine to make her a special contributor to our community. She been an active PNA Board member and served as treasurer for a number of years and as coordinator of our clinic program as well. Sarah is someone the PNA Board can turn to get a job done, even at the last moment.

I have also worked with Sarah in her roles at the National level. She has been a volunteer and a leader at the Finance Committee for nearly a decade. While serving on the Finance Committee she contributes her knowledge and understanding of USMS services, program and policies as opposed to 'just the numbers'. She applied her Human Resources background under the direction of 'then President Rob Copeland to examine USMS compensation which set the groundwork for the development the first iteration of the Comp and Benefits Committee.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Sarah is also an avid swimmer and competitor. She works hard at her training and fitness. She works to create workout group opportunities and swim meet opportunities locally. Sarah's favorites are relays where people of all abilities come together for fun and competition. Just look for her at a local or nationals meet cheering for her teammates!

Sarah has worked at every level of USMS as the organizer of her workout group at Seattle University for many years, at the LMSC level and at the national level and she understands how each contributes to our national organization. She is committed to giving back to Masters swimming and will make an excellent At Large Director from the Pacific Northwest.

Sincerely,

Kathy Casey

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger, Chair of the Election Committee
Elections@usms.org

The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

Sean Fitzgerald
GA LMSC Vice Chair
Legislation Committee Vice Chair

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Election Committee Chair
U.S. Masters Swimming

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Sarah Welch for the position of Northwest Zone Director.

Sarah has been involved with USMS at the national level for over a decade. She already has experience on two Board committees, the Finance Committee and the Compensation and Benefits Committee. Her work on those committees makes her a great asset as USMS continues to create new programs and hire employees and contractors. Her communication skills will also be appreciated as some volunteer roles are migrated to staff positions.

Sarah is involved with masters swimming at all levels. Her knowledge of the roles of Clubs, LMSCs, the HOD and Board Committees helps as USMS develops new strategies to attract new members. Her efforts to help the City of Seattle create a new Parks and Recreation facility can be used across the country to help develop more places to swim.

I believe Sarah has the vision to help USMS be the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness in the USA and will help make fitness through swimming available for as many adults as possible.

Sincerely,
Sean Fitzgerald

The USMS ad hoc Election Committee has my permission to reproduce and distribute this letter.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Leianne Crittenden – Oceana Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Peter Guadagni and received letters of recommendation from Peter Guadagni and Patty Miller. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I have been involved at the LMSC and national level since I started swimming again. Those experiences let me see how varied the Masters program has been for other swimmers, whether they are in different LMSCs, or participate in different events (pool or open water), or in no events at all (and just swim for fitness). I think I can draw on my experience to make suggestions that will improve the programs we offer, so that every participant will get the best possible experience when they sign up for Masters swimming. In addition, as a member of the Governance Committee, I have a strong interest in participating as a Board Member.

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?

I think that supporting teams and coaches is a major issue. We need to assure that resources are available to make sure that the National organization can provide resources to make sure there are strong local programs that are financially viable, with excellent coaching. We need to make sure that participants are trained in how to effectively run their events and their LMSCs, and provide them the tools to do that, so that our volunteer pool is not burned out by the demands of their positions. We need to assure that the national organization, through the Board, listens to members' concerns and addresses them.

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:

- Rules (Chair, Kathy Casey) Member: 2006, 2007, Vice Chair: 2008, 2009, 2010 (associate member, Vice Chair), co-Vice Chair 2012 and 2013
- Governance (Chair, Hugh Moore), currently vice chair
- LMSC Development (Chairs, Doug Adamavich, Paige Buehler) 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014
- Zone Committee (Chair, Julie Heather) 2007, 2008
- Championship Committee (Chair, Mark Moore) 2006
- Ad Hoc Legal Counselors Committee (Chair, Patty Powis Miller) 2005

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

Broad participation in Masters swimming events since 2003:

- National and World Championship meets, as well as open water events
- USMS Individual All American (pool) in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007
- Selected for and attended USMS/USA High Altitude Training Camp at the United States Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, CO, 2005

Broad participation at LMSC and USMS level since 2004:

- Since 2004: Pacific Masters Fitness Chair, Vice President and currently Secretary;
- Since 2004: USMS Committee participation, as member and Vice Chair,

Oceana Zone chair 2008-2009

Worked to propose changes adopted by HOD and BOD: proposed rules changes for team scoring at Nationals, participated on Rules Committee task force to provide standards for transgender athletes, worked to provide administrative processes for dispute resolution.

Moderated seminars at conventions since 2008 as part of Zone and LMSC Development Programs.

- Recipient Dorothy Donnelly Service Award 2011
- Personal Achievement Award, Pacific Masters 2004
- Rookie of the Year, Walnut Creek Masters 2004

Please list any other information you would like included.

-BA, Stanford University, JD/MBA, UCLA. Associate General Counsel, Oracle America, Inc.

-Volunteer activities for American Bar Association 1998-2014 as Subcommittee and Committee Chair for Business Law Section

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

I have worked in the LMSC and National organizations for over ten years in many roles. I like the values that swimmers have, and enjoy the community and programs that USMS provides. I have been fortunate to compete at all levels, from local events to world championships and have always enjoyed participating. I realize that these events happen through the efforts of many volunteers, who are supported by the USMS organization. I look at the opportunity to serve on the Board as a way to continue to make the programs better, for all participants, at all levels of participation. As a member of the Governance Committee, I have a strong interest in being a Board member. I think my experience both professionally and through volunteer activities will prepare me well for being a Board member, and hope you will elect me!.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

TO: USMS Election Committee
FROM: Peter Guadagni, Pacific Masters Swimming Chair
DATE: March 26, 2014

SUBJECT: Nomination and Reference for Leianne Crittenden as At-Large Oceana Zone Director

I hereby nominate Leianne Crittenden for the position of Oceana Zone Director.

Leianne Crittenden will be an excellent addition to the USMS Board. She has the temperament, knowledge and wisdom to help guide our organization into the future.

As a former youth swimmer she understands what it takes to bring athletes back to the sport as adults.

As an elite, fitness and occasionally injured Masters swimmer she has firsthand knowledge of the diverse needs and motivations of our members.

As an attorney she can analyze and advise on difficult issues and recommend actions to reduce future risk.

As a businessperson in a successful and demanding company she knows what it takes for an organization to thrive.

As a USMS convention delegate and current or past member of numerous committees she has a broad perspective of USMS operations.

As a USMS volunteer she is willing to contribute at any level.

As a member of the Pacific Masters leadership team she honors her commitments and completes her responsibilities efficiently.

As a friend and club mate she exudes warmth and encouragement.

For these reasons and many more I enthusiastically endorse Leianne's candidacy for the Oceana Zone Director.

I authorize USMS to publish this letter.

Peter Guadagni

April 26, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Election Committee Chair
U.S. Masters Swimming

Re: Leianne Crittenden

Dear Cheryl:

It is my honor to recommend Leianne Crittenden for the position of U.S. Masters Swimming At-Large Delegate from the Oceana Zone. I believe that Leianne's understanding of what USMS can offer and what its members need, as well as her logical and informed approach to governance will make her an excellent board member.

I have come to know Leianne over the last decade through our joint involvement on committees. Like me, Leianne is an attorney, so I have had the pleasure to work with her on task forces and committees that touch on legal issues, adjudication, and governance. Leianne has approached these opportunities with a desire to understand and to bring order to USMS's structure and services. For example, while serving on the National Board of Review Task Force, Leianne, who had very limited previous exposure to the grievance process, was so driven to understand the system and improve the process that she performed the lion's share of overhauling and re-writing the portions of our rule book that deal with grievances and USMS's National Board of Review Procedures.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

What has really impressed me about Leianne is that she has contributed greatly to so many other areas of USMS beyond the ones I mention above. She is truly a “renaissance” volunteer. Leianne is knowledgeable and passionate about offering the best poolside experience to USMS members. She has been an active leader in the Pacific LMSC, the largest LMSC in USMS, for a decade. She has served on the USMS Rules Committee for years, focusing on the “wet” side of our rules. She has contributed her LMSC knowledge to the LMSC Development Committee for the past four years.

Leianne would be a great addition to the USMS Board of Directors, so I am pleased to recommend her.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Miller

I consent to this letter being published.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Jill Gellatly – South Central Candidate At-Large



The Election Committee has deemed that *Jill Gellatly* is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during her tenure in office.

The candidate is running for re-election and is not required to provide a letter of nomination or a letter of recommendation.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

I have attended all USMS National HOD Meetings from 2006-2013.

III. 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 continuing my term as BOD At-Large for the South Central Zone because I believe USMS has just begun tapping into its potential as an organization serving adult fitness through the sport of swimming. My professional experience in the finance world coupled with my diverse experience serving this organization as a volunteer (see below) enable me to help lead USMS into the future.

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?

USMS will continue to face competition for membership growth. When membership growth becomes stagnant, the ability to secure sponsorships becomes more difficult. These are our two largest revenue streams and we must protect and grow them. As the sport of triathlon makes its way into the “mainstream” population, we should aim to capitalize on its growth by providing adult swimming programs and open water opportunities. Improvements in these areas will come with continuing to build/support our coaches education program, finding new ways to utilize facilities and partner with organizations related to the aquatic world. We must also be strategic and creative in outlining a plan for open water swimming given its increased insurance cost constraints. Re-assessing our current open water model for championships and events should be a top priority..

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:

Long Distance – 2007- Marcia Cleveland Chair
Championship- 2008-2009- Mark Moore Chair
Audit- 2010-current (Chair from 2010-2012; currently, Vice-Chair)
Finance- 2010-2012 Chair- Homer Lane
Strategic Task Force Member- 2011- Chair Patty Miller
Membership Products Task Force 2012-Served as Chair
South Central Zone Director- 2007-2011
Election Committee Member -2013- Chair- Cheryl Gettelfinger
BOD- At-Large South Central Zone- 2012-2014

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

Gulf LMSC Secretary- 2006-2010
Gulf LMSC Chairman-2011-Current
Bachelors of Business in Accounting- Texas A&M University
Masters of Education- Sports Management- University of Georgia
University of Houston-1997-2000; Assistant Ticket Manager; Men’s Basketball Operations

Please list any other information you would like included.

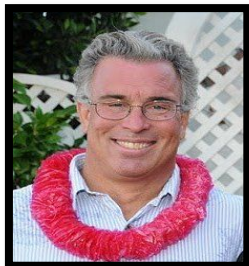
Licensed CPA- State of Texas since 1991

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

I look forward to the opportunity to continue to serve USMS as a BOD member for the next two years. Serving the last two years has been a rewarding experience but as the organization grows, it is the BOD's responsibility to continue its strategic thinking and evolve as an organization. Change, while difficult at times, is the basis for success. As an organization, we face many challenges over the next two years but none that can't be overcome with our talented volunteer base and National office staff. If elected, I will direct USMS to make educated decisions that not only support our mission and value statements but are in the best interest of our membership. Given my experience, and passion for swimming, I ask for your support in my re-election.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors



Michael Heather – Southwest Candidate At-Large

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

The candidate was nominated by Mark Moore and received letters of recommendation from Mark Moore and CJ Rushman, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

All, since 1986

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I would like to continue helping USMS move forward in an appropriate fashion. I have been an officer of the corporation for 8 years, an LMSC chair, vice chair and treasurer. I have been meet director for several championship meets and an open water event director. I know lots about USMS and how it operates.

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?

Membership growth, fiscal responsibility and program review are big items. I would offer and support any programs to address these issues.

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:

Convention Committee, 1986-2004. I was Chair from 1990-2004. I also served on Rules, Marketing, Planning, and was ex officio on many other committees over the years including Legislation, Fitness, Sports Medicine, Coaches, Championship and others.

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

Was a disaster responder for the American Red Cross for 3 years. I am familiar with many forms of philosophy.

Please list any other information you would like included.

None provided.

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

I have been an active participant in all board conversations and a champion for all members' interests. I will continue to do so for the good of USMS if I am elected to the position.

Director At-Large Nomination For Southwest Zone. (SPMS)

Letter of Nomination and Recommendation:

April 11, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby nominate Michael Heather for the position of Southwest Zone Director.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

I have known Michael Heather as a swimmer and fellow SPMS Committee member for the past ten years. Michael has contributed to the growth of Masters Swimming in Southern California through his leadership with SPMS and USMS during the past 30 years.

Michael has contributed at most all leadership areas of Masters Swimming--from USMS National organization to Southern Pacific's local swimming committee.

Michael has the ability to look at an issue and work through it, to determine what is best for the organization given the overall needs of US Masters Swimming. He works diligently to create a positive result for all involved.

Michael has been a leader in encouraging others to get involved in the organization. His abilities and enthusiasm has become evident in his work with USMS over the many years. He truly shows lifelong passion for swimming by going above and beyond in his commitment to USMS.

In conclusion, Michael's strengths and administrative efforts combined with tireless hours working on committees and enthusiasm makes for a great candidate for the Southwest Zone Director. Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Moore
Southern Pacific Masters Chairperson
Head Mission Viejo Nadadores Masters
www.mastersmvnswim.org
949-233-6521
(May be published)

April 15, 2014

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair, USMS Election Committee

Dear Cheryl,

I am recommending Michael Heather for the office of Southwest Zone Director.

Michael has been active for a long time in the administration of USMS and has very varied experiences in many aspects of our organization. He spent 23 consecutive years on the Board of Directors, and more recently had just finished four years as Vice President of Local Operations.

Michael always responds to questions and participates in discussions. He can be counted on to get a discussion started. Another trait that I value is that Michael Heather is not a "Yes Man." He will voice his disagreement and sometimes plays "devil's advocate" to bring out all sides of an argument. However, he listens to others and does not insist his way is the best way or the only way.

I have known Mike for more than 5 years and during that time he has always demonstrated both in and out of the pool, his passion for swimming. We have had many conversations about swimming history, technique, competition, as well as local, state and national issues as they pertain to USMS. He has strong views about many of these topics and is able to back them up with insight, experience and a practical knowledge of how to solve the most vexing problems.

Mike is a no nonsense individual who tackles a problem with energy and vigor. If Mike is in charge of a project, you can be assured that it will get done with a high level of competency and professionalism. As Southwest Zone Director, Mike will view that landscape and get things done.

I give my permission for this letter to be published in the HOD packet.

Christopher John Rushman

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

Dan Wegner – Southwest Candidate At-Large



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

The candidate was nominated by Robert E. Mitchell and received letters of recommendation from Robert E. Mitchell and Karin Wegner, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

2000, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013

III. 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 the position because USMS is a great organization and I want to help tightly integrate the work that is being done in the Southwest Zone and Southern Pacific LMSC with the Executive Board's decisions. As the Southern Pacific Registrar, Southern Pacific Webmaster and Southwest Zone Webmaster I have worked very hard on membership service and effective communication. I look forward to continuing to improve the work I have done and helping volunteer on national committees.

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?

I consider the major issues facing USMS are sustained membership growth, keeping expenses low especially in the face of rising insurance costs, and effective communication. I know the board members of USMS are working on all of these issues, but I am eager to help carry the burden, too. In general I believe sustained membership growth will come from effective marketing by the National Office and great volunteer support at the local level. Insurance costs are higher now than they were two years ago, but all expenses should be reviewed to make sure the most is being made from each membership dollar. Effective communication starts at the top and is a commitment each board must make beyond the estimated commitment hours. Each board member must listen to not only to every delegate, but also the entire USMS membership.

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:

Since 2007 I have attended every Registrar meeting I was invited to attend, initially as the programmer of the USMS online registration system (I was not allowed to be on the committee) and in 2010 I became the Southern Pacific Registrar and attended the meetings representing Southern Pacific.

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

As stated previously, for the past 5 years I have been the Southern Pacific Registrar, Southern Pacific Webmaster and Southwest Zone Webmaster. I also built the first USMS online registration system and worked with the national office for hundreds of hours a year.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I have been awarded the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award and the Southern Pacific Masters Swimming Jim Marcus Service Award for my work as a volunteer both at the national and local levels.

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

Thankfully the role of the Directors At-Large is documented and provides a great starting point. However, I know the most challenging work is often what is not documented. To mitigate the learning curve, I have spoken with current Southwest Zone Director At-Large Phil Whitten about the work he is doing and has done in fulfilling his role. Phil is very passionate about the wonderful organization of USMS and he encouraged me to seek nomination. He was already

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

familiar with the work I have done for USMS, Southern Pacific and the Southwest Zone and I want to help even more to promote the mission of USMS. As everyone who knows me will readily acknowledge, I am a huge proponent of communication. I look forward to all of the roles of Director At-Large and especially communicating with the USMS Delegates who are the lifeblood of the organization.

Nomination for Southwest Zone At-Large Director Dan Wegner

I, Robert E Mitchell, hereby nominate Dan Wegner as Southwest Zone At-Large Director.

I recommend Dan Wegner for Southwest Zone At-Large Director. Dan has been the Southern Pacific (SPMS) LMSC Registrar and an active volunteer since 2010. During that time Dan has shepherded multiple improvements and cost saving measures, and nurtured growth in SPMS. He has gone above and beyond his role duties to provide exceptional service to the members of the SPMS LMSC.

Growth: Dan has been at the helm as Registrar for the growth of SPMS membership to over 4900 members which has enabled SPMS to send an additional delegate to the USMS Convention. In addition, club registrations have increased by 25% from 79 clubs in 2010 to 100 clubs in 2013.

Cost-Saving: Dan found a new conference call solution which saved the LMSC ~\$130/month in conference call fees. Dan helped steer the LMSC to a primarily electronic newsletter which saved the LMSC ~\$1,300 every issue.

Communications: Dan worked to bring online registration from 78% to 97.5% by making members more aware of the online registration option. Dan created an SPMS Welcome Packet for all of SPMS Clubs which was so popular that the national office has now taken on the task for the whole country.

Marketing: Dan volunteered to coordinate design and purchasing of marketing materials including SPMS convention delegate shirts for 2011, 2012, 2013, SPMS Swim Caps, Stickers and Decals, Baseball Caps, Post-It Notes, and luggage tags. Dan ordered two sets of USMS and SPMS Banners for display at pool meets, open water swims, and clinics. Dan created the new SPMS web page "Marketing Materials" with information for swimmers, coaches, club reps, and committee members.

Policies and Procedures: Dan has begun and contributed to multiple new policies and procedures including the following: Meet Administrator Guidelines, Open Water Event Host Guidelines, Open Water Referee position and Open Water Coordinator.

Webmaster: Dan volunteered his time as webmaster and rebuilt the SPMS website both functionally and design-wise with a back-end database supporting all the activities of the LMSC, especially the calendar and swim events. The website was awarded a "USMS Website of the Month". Dan designed and posted the new Perennial Calendar. Dan coordinated the switch from SPMA.net to SPMasterSwim.org for website and email hosting. Dan is also the volunteer webmaster for the Southwest Zone.

Every member of the LMSC and any potential member has benefited because of the improved communications Dan has implemented. In addition, the policies and procedures Dan has shepherded will help members for many years to come.

I give permission for this letter to be published.

Recommendation for Southwest Zone At-Large Director Dan Wegner

I, Karin Wegner, recommend Dan Wegner for Southwest Zone At-Large Director. Dan passionately believes in the mission of USMS. I work next to Dan on a daily basis and we discuss all of his projects for Southern Pacific (SPMS) LMSC and the Southwest Zone.

When Dan first took over the role of SPMS LMSC Registrar and Webmaster, he brought all his experience in building websites and immediately identified hundreds of improvements which needed to be made to the old SPMS website. All of the improvements fell under what he described as "communicating to the membership". He explained if the membership could not find a piece of information at midnight, their perception of service would be negatively impacted. Over the course of 3 months he completely rebuilt the SPMS website. Every time he received a phone call or an email from a member he would go to the website and see if he could follow a path which would answer their question. If he could not find a logical path to the information, he would make one. The website is fantastic now and the LMSC even received recognition from USMS.

Dan still gets phone calls from members who for various reasons are not able to find the information on the website. Sometimes they do not have a computer and sometimes English is a second language to them. Dan takes extra time

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

making sure they have all their questions answered and if they need website information mailed to them, he will print it out and mail it to them.

Dan is always volunteering for SPMS sub-committees. He has volunteered for every SPMS Committee which needed help including the Budget Committee, Planning Committee, and Swim Meet Results Committee. He knows the more he understands about the needs of SPMS, the more he can facilitate the communication within SPMS up to the USMS National Office, across to the committee members and down to the coaches and swimmers.

Something most people may not know about Dan is how he is constantly working to make software which accommodates the thousands of unique requests which benefit USMS. Philosophically Dan does not believe that people need to conform to software. Dan believes that software needs to conform to the needs of the people. Dan will spend hours changing the programming on websites so that the software is more intuitive, has better cross-references and ultimately provides better service. USMS is not the same as any other governing body and he is always listening to the unique needs of every coach, meet host, open water host and member.

Karin Wegner
USMS Member

I give permission for this letter to be published.



Laura Winslow – Southwest Candidate At-Large

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

The candidate was nominated by Judy Gillies and received letters of recommendation from Jill Gellatly and Patty Miller. These letters follow the questionnaire.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

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

San Diego, CA – 2003
Greensboro, NC – 2004
Orlando, FL - 2005
Dearborn, MI – 2006
Anaheim, CA – 2007
Atlanta, GA – 2008
Chicago, IL – 2009
Dallas, TX – 2010
Jacksonville FL – 2011
Greensboro, NC – 2012
Anaheim, CA - 2013

III. Section Three: Questions

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

I am passionate about the sport of swimming. Since 2003 I have been a USMS volunteer, mostly on the national level. In 2004, I was one of 12 people selected to attend the masters' high altitude camp in Colorado Springs. With everything that this camp offered, this experience increased my desire to give back to the sport and organization that had invested in me.

In 2005, I was elected as an at-large BOD member, serving two terms. In this position, I chaired the first Executive Director Task Force and laid the ground work for the Executive Compensation and Benefits Committee.

With my diverse background as a CPA, experience in executive compensation and a swim coach, I offer the organization key knowledge and energy in areas that are important for its growth. I was also an assistant organizer for the 2003, 2011, 2012, and 2013 nationals,

I have enjoyed my previous service and demonstrated that I can get the job done. In assisting with the running of the 2011, 2012 and 2013 nationals, I have displayed my organizational skills. Having previously served on the board, I know how it operates and what is expected. If elected, I would be able to start fulfilling my duties from day one.

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?

Growth and retention, communication, and club and LMSC development are areas I see as critical to the health of our organization. As a member of the Board, I would oversee and govern USMS. Specifically, I would establish policy to lead the organization and provide strategic direction to help us grow. In addition, I would promote USMS outside the organization and educate non-members on the many benefits of joining.

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:

International 2003 – 2005; Sandy Rousseau
Championship 2004 – 2005; Barry Fasbender
Long Distance/Open Water 2007 – 2009; Marcia Cleveland
Coaches 2010 – 2011; Craig Keller
Finance 2011 – 2014; Homer Lane and Jeanne Ensign
Audit 2013 – 2014; Elyce Dilworth

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

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

I am a certified public accountant with over 25 years' experience in the business world, having practiced both accounting and executive compensation. In these roles, I have worked as part of a team as well as being a leader. I was also the controller for a kids swim team for two years, helping to meet budgetary constraints. I coached masters for five years and both boys and girls high school swimming for six, winning three state titles. I have also helped direct four national championships: May 2003, April 2011, April 2012, and August 2013. In addition, San Antonio has asked me to assist with the 2015 spring nationals.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Former Arizona Sanctions Chair
Former Arizona LMSC Competition Committee Chair
At-Large Board of Director: 2005 - 2010
Chair Executive Director Search Committee; 2005 – 2007
Chair Employee Compensation Task Force; 2005 - 2007
Chair Dues Increase Task Force; 2006
Member of Long Course Nationals Evaluation Committee; 2005
Member of National Headquarters Task Force
Member of Membership Dues Task Force
Member of National Board of Review 2014

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

I would like to help lead USMS as the organization continues to grow, including taking the steps necessary to ensure the continued growth of masters swimming. In addition, I would like to develop policies and major plans, promote the organization, and help educate non-members.

Dear Cheryl Gettelfinger,

April 27th, 2014

I am the most recent past president of the Arizona LMSC, am currently the Officials Chair in the LMSC. I am writing this to nominate another long time Arizona LMSC member, Laura Winslow.

I would like to nominate Laura for the position of At-large Director from the SW Zone.

Sincerely yours,
Judy Gillies,
AZ LMSC

Attn: Ms. Cheryl Gettelfinger
Chair
Election Committee
U.S. Masters Swimming

Dear Cheryl:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Laura Winslow for the Board of Directors At-Large Position from the South West Zone. I believe that Laura's extensive experience as a USMS volunteer at both the local and national levels has prepared her to serve the membership of USMS as a Director.

At the National level, Laura has been very active since 2003 in a variety of roles. Currently, she is active on the Finance Committee and a new member of the Audit Committee. These roles complement her extensive professional finance and executive compensation background. In addition, she previously served on the Board of Directors from 2005-2010 during a time when USMS was faced with numerous challenges. As USMS continues to grow its membership, and develop its brand, the experience and skill set that Laura will bring to the Board will be invaluable in taking this organization to the next level. Her ability to think strategically within fiscal boundaries is a great asset that is very unique to this organization.

Candidates for At Large Board of Directors

I believe Laura's passion for the sport of swimming combined with her experience will enable her to make valuable contributions as a member of the USMS Board of Directors.

Please support her for this position.

Sincerely,
Jill Gellatly

This letter may be published

Attn: Cheryl Gettelfinger
Election Committee Chair
U.S. Masters Swimming

Re: Laura Winslow

Dear Cheryl:

I am pleased to recommend Laura Winslow for the position of U.S. Masters Swimming At-Large Delegate from the Southwest Zone. Laura demonstrates a passion for giving to Masters Swimming and has contributed greatly for over a decade. I believe that Laura has much more to offer USMS as a member of the Board of Directors.

I was Legal Counsel for USMS when Laura was a member of the board from 2005 to 2010. Laura's board involvement came at a time when USMS was transitioning from being largely volunteer run to professionally managed. Laura was key to this transition by chairing the first Executive Director Task Force and helping to build needed staff support capacity for compensation and benefits. It is because of this involvement – and the ensuing years in which Laura has continued to be involved on the national level as a delegate and committee member – that I believe Laura understands the role of the board and would start her board service ready to function actively.

Laura's passion for Masters Swimming is evidenced by her involvement over the years as a swimmer, coach, LMSC volunteer, and nationals administrator. She is a supporter of the USMS mission and an advocate for our members. Given this combination of board awareness, demonstrated ability, and passion for providing health and fitness to adults through swimming, I am pleased to recommend Laura to be an At-Large Delegate.

I consent to this letter being published.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Miller

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

Audit

Committee Members

Elyce Dilworth, Chair; Jill Gellatly, Vice Chair
Ralph Davis, Jeanne Ensign, Laura Winslow
Ex-Officio: Phil Dodson, Susan Kuhlman

Introduction

The Audit Committee's primary responsibility is to monitor the reliability and integrity of the financial statements of United States Masters Swimming, Inc. (USMS), monitor compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the organization's operating systems, and monitor the independence and performance of USMS's external auditors.

With regard to the 2013 audit, USMS received an "unmodified" opinion from Kerkering, Barberio & Co. (K&B). An "unmodified opinion" is one that is free of material financial statement errors.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Reviewed and recommended approval of the 2013 audited financial statements to the BOD. Included annual meeting of members with K&B in Sarasota.
2. Reviewed and recommended approval of the Form 990 tax forms for the year ending December 31, 2013.
3. Executive Summary report provided to BOD for July mid-year meeting. The report included the results of the 2013 audit process and findings.

Action Items

1. Recommend to Finance Committee changes to FOG, if any.

Audit Committee Agenda Friday 8:00am – 9:15am – City Terrace 6

1. Executive Session
2. Discuss proposed changes to 2014 financial statements
3. Review changes to FOG
4. Review audit fee proposal for 2015-2017

Compensation and Benefits

Committee Members

Ed Coates, Chair; Sarah Welch, Vice Chair
Hill Carrow, Erika Braun, Jim Miller,
Ex-Officio: Nadine Day, Maria Elisa Williams,

Introduction

The Compensation and Benefits committee advises the Board of Directors on compensation and benefits programs for USMS staff.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Review Committee Charter
2. Review and recommend executive director goals

Action Items

1. Committee recommended approval of 2014 Executive Director goals by the Board of Directors.
2. Committee reviewed and recommended Board approval of Executive Director performance against the 2103 goals.
3. Committee reviewed, revised and recommended Board approval of the committee Charter.
4. All items recommended to the board were approved

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

Compensation and Benefits Meeting Agenda

1. Open discussion
2. Preliminary review of 2014 goals results

Finance

Committee Members

Jeanne Ensign, Chair; Laszlo Eger, Vice Chair

Tom Boak, Ralph Davis, Elyce Dilworth, Betsy Durrant, Don Gilchrist, Harry Greenfield, Peter Guadagni, Lucy Johnson, Homer Lane, Jeff Moxie, Sarah Welch, Laura Winslow

Ex-Officio: Phil Dodson, Treasurer; Susan Kuhlman, Chief Financial Officer

Introduction

The Finance Committee's responsibility is to review and recommend to the Board the annual operating and capital budgets, to oversee financial performance, and to oversee the reliability and integrity of the financial statements, organization-wide risk management and compliance with regulatory requirements.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The committee met several times during the year by conference call, and will meet to discuss the budget in the weeks leading up to convention. As usual, many items were not agreed upon without lengthy discussion and debate. The entire committee was very active – most members participated in most calls.

During the year sub-groups provided guidance and recommendations to the FC in certain areas. The FOG subcommittee of Laszlo, Laura and Homer deserves special recognition for an extraordinary amount of time devoted to this project. Following is a summary of the year's actions:

1. Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG). A comprehensive rewrite was done and submitted to the Board of Directors for their approval.
2. Financial Policy. This document has been renamed "Financial Policy – Responsibilities and Roles" so the title is not in conflict with Article 508 of the Rule Book with the same title. This policy defines the roles and responsibilities for handling the financial assets and affairs of USMS. This is the document that created the FC as a committee of the board and defines the role of the committee. Changes were made for the first time since originally adopted in 2009, mostly housekeeping, as in the interim other committees of the board were established. The changes were submitted to the BOD for their approval.
3. Five-year Financial Plan. The subcommittee undertook a review of the plan presented to us at the last convention, comparing it to the strategic plan and identifying standards to help the BOD and National Office work with the plan. They also worked with the Rob B. to edit the Executive Summary of the plan.
4. Cost Benefit analyses. Investigated Key Performance Indicators (KPI) used by NO to analyze every program; offered minimal suggestions; no further action at this time.
5. Developed a one-page dashboard for periodic financial reports from the National Office for use by the BOD and FC.
6. Approved ED's request to reallocate \$25,000 of budgeted funds to a BOD-approved new Public Relations campaign.
7. Reviewed financial reports from CFO; reviewed final 2013 operating results and 2014 forecasts
8. Received quarterly reports from Investment Committee.
9. Agreed on a budget format presentation for capital items and related depreciation.
10. Agreed to present the BOD-approved budget to HOD on Friday, to provide delegates adequate time to prepare for budget vote on Saturday.

The committee also discussed:

1. Membership products: 16 month membership option; common LMSC fees; multi-year membership
2. Club collection fees by the National Office
3. Authority to establish fees
4. Open Water event insurance
5. Presentation of a deficit budget (if necessary and if approved by BOD)

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

Action Items

1. Approval of minutes of meetings since prior convention
2. Review of any over budget requests since prior convention
3. Approval of 2015 budget

Finance Committee Agenda

Meeting #1 – Wednesday 4:00pm – 5:30 pm – Conference Center A

Meeting #2 – Thursday 3:30pm – 4:45pm – Boardroom 2

Meeting #3 – Friday 9:30am – 10:30am – Boardroom 1

Meeting #4 – Saturday 8:00am – 9:00am – Boardroom 1

1. Welcome and introductions
2. Approval of minutes of meetings since prior convention
3. Chief Financial Officer's report – Susan Kuhlman
4. Treasurer's report – Phil Dodson
5. Audit Committee report – Elyce Dilworth
6. Investment Committee update – Ralph Davis
7. Review all elements of 2015 budget, recommend amendments and present to BOD on Thursday
8. Upcoming projects
9. Other

Governance

Committee Members

Hugh Moore, Chair; Leianne Crittenden, Vice Chair

Carl Bromer, Sean Fitzgerald, Patty Miller, Anthony Thompson, Jim Wheeler

Introduction

The Governance Committee is responsible for ongoing review and recommendations to enhance the quality of the USMS governance structure, including the Board, committees, local, and regional divisions of USMS.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Committee Charter. The committee reviewed its charter and made recommendations to reorganize the existing list to better emphasize education. Revised wording is listed under action items.
2. Education. The chair provided BOD training at both the February and July BOD face-to-face meetings. The February meeting centered around the *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Non-profit Boards* and what the board can do to improve performance. The July meeting engaged Rob Lane of Kerkering-Barberio reviewing fiduciary responsibilities of non-profit boards. An Education sub-committee (Leianne - chair, Anthony, Jim, Patty, and Jim Miller) is working on a plan for continual board training.
3. Policy Manual. The Policy Manual Subcommittee (Carl and Hugh) reviewed the current USMS Policy Manual and made recommendations for changes for BOD consideration. Some of the changes have been incorporated as separate documents on the Policies and Governance page of the USMS Website. As a result some modifications of the Policy Manual will be required.
4. USMS Organizational Structure. The committee discussed the complexities of the USMS organization and attempted to capture the current structure, including members, national office, USMS committees, House of Delegates, LMSCs, clubs, and workout groups. The committee will use the conceptual organization chart to discuss optimizing communication, education and reporting structure.
5. LMSC Development. The committee has provided support for the LMSC Development Committee:
 - The chair led the Secretaries Peer-to-Peer Teleconference on May 14th.
 - The chair has been asked to help facilitate the LMSC Development BYOB (Bring Your own Bylaws) and MGD (Major Governance Documents) workshop on Friday, September 18 at 1 pm.

Action Items

1. The committee recommended purchase of *Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards* from Board Source for all active members of the BOD and for all members of the Governance Committee.

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

2. The committee recommended revising its charter as shown below:
 - a. The committee shall be composed of 5 to 7 members of the board and non-board members with relevant involvement or expertise in governance and organizational development appointed by the President

The committee shall have the following responsibilities:

- Designing and implementing an ongoing program of Board information and education for Board members
- Leading the periodic assessment of the board's performance and proposing, as appropriate, changes in board structure, roles, and responsibilities.
- Regularly reviewing the Board's practices regarding member participation, conflict of interest, confidentiality, etc., and suggesting improvements as needed.
- Evaluating the USMS governance process and structures, including the Board of Directors, Executive Committee, national committees, and local and regional divisions (LMSCs and Zones) and recommending appropriate changes.
- Maintaining the USMS Policy Manual. The committee will present updates and changes to the BOD for review and approval. The committee will also advise and assist committees, coordinators, liaisons and special appointments in maintaining policy related to their mission.

Governance Committee Agenda Saturday 7:00am – 8:00am – Room 4106

1. Education Subcommittee report.
2. Policy Manual Subcommittee report
3. USMS Organization Structure. Review of draft organization chart and optimizing organization for communication, education and reporting structure.

Swimming Saves Lives

Committee Members

Brandon Franklin, Chair; Debbie Malafsky, Vice Chair

Mel Goldstein, Dia Rianda, Ted Haartz, Tom Holmberg, Rob Copeland, Jim Miller, Doug Church, Nancy Ridout, Diane Bartlett

Ex-Officio: Nadine Day, Rob Butcher, Susan Kuhlman

The Swimming Saves Lives Foundation (SSLF) was established in 2010 as the charitable arm of U.S. Masters Swimming. The purpose of SSLF is to advocate and raise awareness, and to serve as a resource for programs providing adult learn-to-swim lessons. The program solicits charitable contributions and provides grants to SSLF program providers.

The primary focus of SSLF over the past several years has been to build awareness for our cause. There are more than 18 million swimming pools and hot tubs in the USA. Yet, according to the Center for Disease Control, 37% of American adults cannot swim the length of a pool. Every day, about 10 people die from drowning. The majority of unintentional drowning victims are adults and drowning ranks fifth among the leading causes of unintentional injury death in the United States.

The majority of effort over the past year has been focused on working with leaders in various communities around the country in the movement toward increasing awareness and the creation of Adult Learn-To-Swim Programs. A lot of progress has been made in terms of structure & awareness.

A key example is the April Adult Learn-To-Swim initiative. April is generally the month when pools, lakes, and beaches are opening up for spring and summer recreation. USMS and the SSLF declared April the Adult Learn to Swim month. A media campaign was created, Rowdy Gaines participated by creating a public service announcement (see here: <http://www.usms.org/giving/content/learntoswim>), and Governors of Indiana, Nebraska, Washington, Maine, New Jersey and Minnesota (http://mn.gov/governor/images/adult_learn_to_swim_month_2014.pdf) to name a few, issued proclamations in

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

support of the initiative. This was a huge PR success, with the initiative being covered by many local and national media outlets, including ABC and the New York Times (http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2014/04/28/a-stroke-you-must-have/?_php=true&_type=blogs&_r=0) amongst others. The plan is to continue with this PR approach and build on the momentum. This will ultimately support both the programs themselves and the fundraising activities through greater awareness.

On the structural side, progress is best illustrated by the program that has been evolving in the New England LMSC (NEM) under the direction of Bill Meier, Chair of the New England LMSC. As part of the April Learn-To-Swim initiative, Bill mobilized eight New England Masters swim teams: Cambridge Masters Swim Club, Johnson State College Masters, Martha's Vineyard Masters, Pace Makers Masters Swim Club, Pittsfield Polar Bear Masters, Stowe Masters, The Edge Swim Club, and Worcester Area Masters to offer free swimming lessons to adults. In total, 100 Masters Swimmers from these teams taught approximately 400 lessons to 175 participants. These eight NE Masters teams led the national *Swimming Saves Lives* effort, along with 14 other Masters teams from across the country.

In addition to the above, Bill has been very active in training volunteers in the art of teaching an adult how to swim. In March, Rob Butcher spent the day watching Bill train and educate 25 volunteers at Harvard University with what to expect as adult learn to swim instructors. Bill's program was formalized, there was role-play and the program is scalable. There are other programs evolving around the country that are also successful. Our plan is to work with these programs to create initiatives that can be replicated across the country.

The fundraising aspect of the SSLF, to date, has largely been reliant upon large donors and membership contributions via the annual registration process as opposed to a more aggressive approach of active fundraising. This has largely been driven by our need to build awareness and create a tangible program. Given we have made great strides in those areas, the SSLF board of trustees recommends USMS dedicate resources to hire a program manager for SSLF so more of our effort can be spent invested into the strategy of fundraising.

Our current approach with regard to our grant program is to seek out those programs that are in greatest need or have the greatest potential. Bill's program is one that received a grant that continues to pay for itself. There are many others that are equally impactful. A case of need is Richmond Aquatics in California. A diverse community with a low income threshold, Richmond received an SSLF grant and created this video to show the impact on its community: <http://vimeo.com/99992585>.

Grants have increased from \$10,866 in 2010 up to \$48,708 in 2013. The grants in 2013 provided lesson benefits to 1,157 adults. We estimate there will be between \$60,000 and \$75,000 in grants or approximately 20% of SSLF corpus for the 2014/5 giving year while our funds on hand have continued to increase.

Our goals for 2014/5 including the following:

- Continue to build awareness via the April Learn To Swim and other initiatives;
- Expand upon the programs that are having success and roll out elsewhere;
- Commence the process of building a fundraising capacity within SSLF.

Investment

Committee Members:

Ralph Davis Chair; Chair; Elyce Dilworth, Stan Benson, Bill Sherman, Homer Lane, Ex Officio: Susan Kuhlman, Phil Dodson.

Introduction:

This Committee is responsible for overseeing USMS's Investment Philosophy of investing the Financial assets of USMS in excess of needed working capital, consistent with a policy of prudent investment planning and protection of assets according to the established USMS Investment Policy approved by the USMS Board of Directors.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

1. Comprehensively reviewed the Morningstar/Lipper Performance-Benchmark Report, evaluating each Mutual Fund in the USMS Portfolio on a quarterly basis as a Committee, and monthly on an individual basis.

USMS BOD Committee Reports and Agendas

2. Continued detailed quarterly discussions with our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager on Fund Performance, any recommended USMS Portfolio changes as well as meaningful Economic trends that would have impact on the USMS Portfolio.
3. Continued to prepare quarterly Investment Committee Reports for the Board of Directors and Finance Committee.

Action Items:

All the aforementioned projects continue to carry forward as regular action items.

Report on USMS Investments of June 30, 2014:

The Market Value of our USMS Portfolio ending 6/30/2014 was \$2,195,596 referenced to our original Cash Investment of \$1,699,976 in 2011. Please be reminded that USMS began 2014 with a portfolio value of \$2,080,520 for total appreciation of \$115,076. **For first six months of 2014 our USMS portfolio earned a composite Total Return (Capital Appreciation plus Income) of 5.53%.** I have attached a slide of our Investment Income from 2005 to 2014.

Our target asset allocation remains at 60% stock/40% fixed income-cash. As of June 30, 2014 our Equity Securities totaled 67.3%, Fixed Income Securities totaled 31.1%, plus 1.6% in Cash and Short Term securities. For your awareness, our estimated average Fund Costs for 2014 will be 22.9 basis points (\$5,067), and our Management Services Fee will be 29.4 basis points (\$6,506) – a great combined bargain for USMS!

The Investment Committee, along with our Portfolio Manager, still believes that our current Portfolio asset allocation remains appropriate for USMS.

The Investment Committee is pleased to continue to be entrusted to responsibly steward the assets of USMS.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph Davis, Chair, USMS Investment Committee

Investment Committee Agenda

Meeting #1 - Wednesday 2:30pm – 4:00pm – Boardroom 2

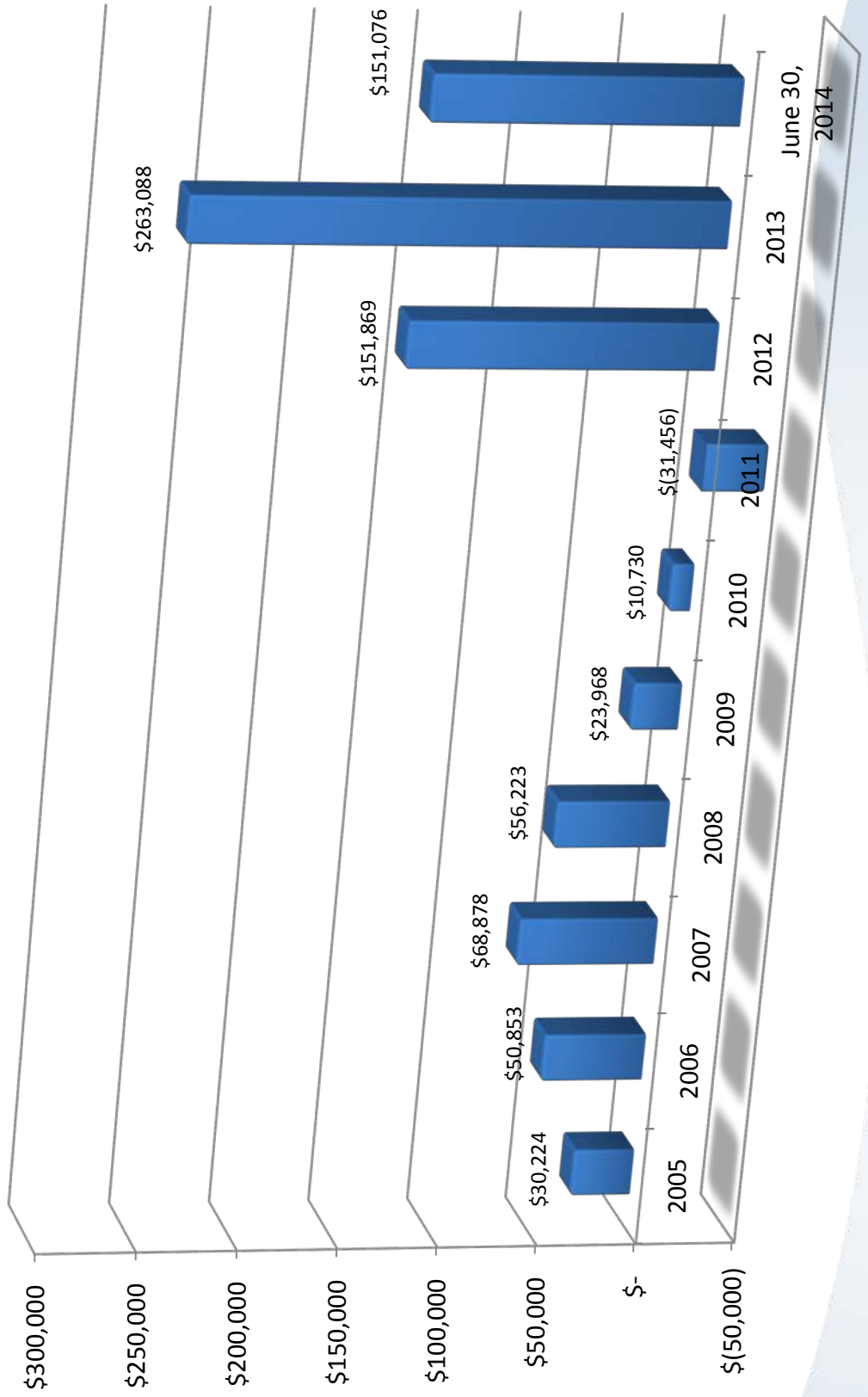
Meeting #2 - Thursday 6:45pm – 7:45pm – Boardroom 2

1. Discussion of USMS Portfolio recommendations, if any, proposed by our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager.
2. Discussion of USMS Portfolio returns, and individual Fund performance to date.
3. Conference Call with Jim Walker, our Northern Trust Portfolio Manager.
4. Review of Investment Committee Meeting schedule for 2014-2015.
5. Review/Deliberation of recommended changes, if any, to the current USMS Investment Policy.
6. Other items requiring Investment Committee attention.



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Investment Income



USMS Special Appointments and Liaisons

FINA Masters Committee – Mel Goldstein

The focus of the FINA Masters Technical Committee in 2014 and 2015 was the XV FINA World Championships in Montreal, and the XVI FINA World Championships in Kazan, Russia. Each World Championship presents its own set of challenges. In Montreal we had a beautiful city and excellent venues to work with. The temporary pool constructed for these championships, while it was an excellent venue it presented its own challenges the FINA Commission had not expected or prepared for. While the FINA Commission tried to make changes every day we felt the LOC could have done a better job programming and producing results. Water Polo, Synchronized Swimming, Diving and Open Water were the most organized and from a technical standpoint well run. The Montreal championship attracted 9036 swimmers (*all disciplines*) from 97 countries, with over 2244 swimmers from the US (*all disciplines*) participating. For the most part the championships were a success, with many new innovations implemented, most notably a separate deadline for entering relays.

The 2015 FINA World Championships will be in Kazan, Russia, August 5-16, 2015. Kazan is a beautiful city, capitol of sport in Russia and has World Class facilities. Those attending will have a unique experience in that the Kazan LOC will be offering reasonable housing packages in an athletes village which will include one-two or three meals a day, free transportation, and many more amenities. More information on the Kazan championship can be found on their website www.kazan2015.com.

My responsibilities on the committee was to chair a Sub Committee which evolved around development of Masters programs throughout the world, with emphasis on the 3rd World countries. A three-part proposal was put forth by the sub-committee to the FINA Bureau in our meeting in Montreal. One, to develop a FINA branded Masters video showing the benefits of a Masters swimming program. Two, develop a survey which will go to all FINA member federations specifically asking about their Masters programs, and Three, making sure there is Masters presence at all major FINA events to present the benefits of Masters Swimming. The committee agreed we must change the mindset of many coaches and definitive leadership around the world as how they view Masters swimming. The FINA Masters Technical Committee is dedicated to work on this process through education.

ISHOF Liaison – Walt Reid

IMSHOF

The 2013 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held during the USAS Convention in Anaheim California. Edward Cazalet was inducted as Honor Swimmer and Ted Haartz was inducted as Honor Contributor.

Of the six male Honor Swimmer Nominees for 2014 four are from USMS. They are David Guthrie, David Radcliff, Timothy Shead, and Hugh Wilder. Of the six female Honor Swimmer Nominees for 2014 three are from USMS. They are Jean Troy, Anne Adams, and Danielle Ogier. The winners will be announced shortly and the 2014 IMSHOF Induction Ceremony will be held during the 2014 USAS Convention in Jacksonville FL.

ISHOF

I attended the 2014 International Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony which was held at the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Ft. Lauderdale FL. No Honor Masters Swimmers were inducted. Again the nominees from USMS for the 2014 ISHOF Honor Masters Swimmer were Aldo da Rosa, Burwell Jones, Frank Piemme, Betsy Jordan, Rita Simonton and Karlyn Pipes-Neilsen.

It has been announced that the International Swimming Hall of Fame will no longer be in Ft. Lauderdale FL. The pools and surrounding buildings will be torn down and replaced starting sometime this year. The Hall of Fame will be moving to a new city as yet to be announced. All items at the Hall Of Fame will be put in storage. Inductions for both ISHOF and IMSHOF will take place during the interim.

USMS Special Appointments and Liaisons

UANA Representative – Jim Miller

Introduction:

As some background UANA stands for Union Americana de Natacion. It is the governing body under FINA that encompasses North America, South America and the Caribbean Nations. United States Aquatic Sports is one of the Federations under the UANA banner. UANA was established in 1948. The logos involved here, just so you've seen them are:



You had better recognize the last of these!

The Masters Technical Committee under UANA is chaired by our own Mel Goldstein and I have sat on the committee since its inception in the early 2000's. Our committee takes up all aspects of all the 5 aquatic disciplines (swimming, diving, open water swimming, synchronized swimming and water polo).

2014

2014 was a relatively quiet time for the UANA Masters Technical Committee since this was not a championship year. The major project under way is the upcoming UANA Masters Pan American Championships in Medellin, Columbia June 17 – 27. All aquatic disciplines water polo, synchronized swimming, diving, pool and open water swimming.....will be represented in this competition this year. It is the express goal of UANA to have all the aquatic sports represented in all future UANA Masters Pan American Championships.

Future Suggestions (revisited from 2013 Sarasota Championships)



Whenever an event is conducted a review of the ways to improve the event must be done.

Recommendations for future hosts would be:

- Host all 5 disciplines at a close proximity, ideally in the same aquatic complex (open water aside).
- Host the event later in the summer when school is out in the host country
- Host the event over a briefer period of time (7 days max)

Considering the above recommendations from last year, 2 of the 3 are being implemented for the upcoming Columbian Championships.

Come and enjoy a Masters Aquatic Celebration in Columbia!

USMS Liaison to IGLA – Bruce Hopson

International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics bills itself as the world's foremost itself international organization solely devoted to developing and promoting LGBTQ masters swimming, open water swimming, diving, water polo and synchronized swimming. Each year IGLA holds its annual IGLA Championships, which make them the world's largest LGBTQ aquatics event, and attracts hundreds of participants from around the globe each year.

USMS Special Appointments and Liaisons

international championship meet for all of its disciplines. The IGLA Championships were first held in San Diego in 1987 and most recently in Copenhagen, Honolulu, Reykjavik, and Seattle

This year's event was held in conjunction with the Gay Games 9 from August 10-16 in Cleveland-Akron, Ohio, and sanctioned by the Erie LMSC. The aquatics portion was held at Cleveland State University. The next IGLA event will be held August 5-9, 2015, in Stockholm, Sweden, in conjunction with the EuroGames. The 2016 IGLA Championships will be held in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, August 8-14, 2016, at the Kinsmen Sports Centre, which played host to the swimming portion of the 2005 World Masters Games. Auckland, New Zealand and Toronto, Ontario, Canada, also submitted bids. In 2013, the Federation of Gay Games awarded Paris over London and Limerick, Ireland, to play host to the 2018 Gay Games X.

Proposed Changes to the USMS Rules of Competition

The following proposals have been submitted, in accordance with section 601.2 to the Rules Committee for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2014 Convention.

Please note that some of the proposed changes are from review work done by the Rules Committee and are a matter of clarifying, reorganizing, maintaining consistency, and updating rules.

The substantive proposals are R 1-3, R 5-6, R 13-22, R 24-30, R 32-34, and R 36-48.

R 19 was submitted as an indivisible package and must also be considered by the Long Distance Committee for recommendation to the House of Delegates in accordance with 601.4.5.

R 1 Glossary pages xi & xiv **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

~~**Chapter Workout Group**—a subordinate organization (subgroup) of a USMS-registered club, that is a member of USMS registered through an LMSC. Individual members of a chapter are also members of the parent club.~~

Rationale: The term “chapter” does not appear in the rule book, but “workout group” does.

R 2 Glossary page xii **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

~~**Heat**—a division of an event in which there are too many swimmers to compete at one time. A set or a subset of the total number of swimmers in one event.~~

Rationale: More accurate definition.

R 3 101.1.1 page 1 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.1 Starts

101.1.1 Forward Start—The forward start may be taken from the starting block, the pool deck, or a push from the wall. At the commencement of each heat, the referee shall signal to the swimmers by a short series of whistles to remove all clothing except for swimwear, followed by a long whistle indicating that they should take and maintain their positions ~~with at least one foot at the front of~~ on the starting platform, ~~or the deck, or in the water, before~~ On the starter’s command, “Take your mark,” each swimmer shall immediately assume the starting position with at least one foot at the front of the starting platform or the deck. ~~Each swimmers~~ starting in the water must take ~~their~~ the positions on the wall with at least one hand in contact with the wall or starting platform and one foot in contact with the wall before the command, “Take your mark,” and may face any direction.

Rationale: Since USA-S swimmers no longer have to stand at the back of the block when they first take their positions on the block, the USMS start rule can now be consistent with USA-S language. USMS swimmers can still place one foot at the front of the block before the command, “Take your mark,” just as USA-S swimmers now do.

R 4 101.1.3 page 2 **Rules Committee** Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.1.3 Starter—See article 103.8 for starter equipment, preparation, optional instructions, start commands, false starts, warning signal, and deliberate delay or misconduct.

Rationale: Cross references starter information in article 103.8.

R 5 101.3.3 page 3 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.3 Butterfly

101.3.3 Kick—All up and down movements of the legs and feet must be simultaneous. The position of the legs or the feet need not be on the same level, but they shall not alternate in relation to each other. The breaststroke ~~or whip~~ kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick while doing the butterfly stroke at any time during the race. Only one breaststroke ~~or whip~~ kick is permitted per arm pull, except that a single breaststroke ~~or whip~~ kick is permitted prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull. After the start and after each turn, a single breaststroke ~~or whip~~ kick is permitted prior to the first arm pull. A scissors kicking movement is not permitted.

Rationale: Delete the term “whip kick”, because the term “breaststroke kick” is accurate. (This change will also be reflected in the Differences documents in Appendix B.)

R 6 101.4.2 page 3 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.4 Backstroke

101.4.2 Stroke—~~Standing in or on the gutter, placing the toes above the lip of the gutter, or bending the toes over the lip of the gutter immediately after the start is not permitted.~~ The swimmer shall push off on the back and continue swimming on the back throughout the race. Some part of the swimmer must break the surface of the water throughout the race, except it shall be permissible for the swimmer to be completely submerged during the turn and for a distance of not more than 15 meters (16.4 yards) after the start and each turn. By that point, the head must have broken the surface of the water.

Rationale: Since the backstroke start is described in 101.1.2, it is unnecessary to describe it again here.

R 7 101.7.2 page 5 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.7 Relays

101.7.2 Medley Relay—Four swimmers on each team, each to swim one-fourth of the prescribed distance in the following order: first, backstroke; second, breaststroke; third, butterfly; fourth, freestyle. Rules pertaining to each stroke used shall govern where applicable. At the end of each leg, the finish rules for ~~each~~ that stroke ~~applies in each case~~ apply.

Rationale: Less awkward language.

R 8	101.7.3	page 5	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

101.7 Relays

101.7.3 Rules Pertaining to Relays ~~Races~~

Rationale: Simpler subtitle.

R 9	101.7.3B	page 5	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

101.7 Relays

101.7.3 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

B When automatic relay takeoff judging is used, all swimmers must touch the touchplate or pad in their respective lanes at the end of the course to have finished their legs of the relay ~~raee~~.

Rationale: Unnecessary word.

R 10	101.7.3	page 5	Rules Committee				Modify (Change order of F/G/H)
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

101.7 Relays

101.7.3 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

A No swimmer shall swim more than one leg in any relay event.

B When automatic relay takeoff judging is used, all swimmers must touch the touchplate or pad in their respective lanes at the end of the course to have finished their legs of the relay race.

C A swimmer other than the first swimmer shall not start until the previous swimmer's leg has been concluded.

D If a team member other than the swimmer designated to swim a particular leg jumps into or enters the pool in the area where the race is being conducted and before all swimmers of all teams have finished the race, both the offending swimmer and relay team shall be disqualified.

Note: An exception may be granted to a relay team member who wishes to enter the water to start from the water; this swimmer shall notify the starter and be careful not to disturb or interfere with another swimmer or the timing system pad when in use.

E All relay team members shall leave the water immediately upon finishing their legs, except for the last member.

Note: Swimmers who cannot exit the water quickly enough to prevent interference with automatic officiating equipment may be allowed to hold on to the lane line until all relays have finished, allowing them to exit the pool more slowly or via the ladders at the conclusion of the race.

~~F Mixed relays shall consist of two men and two women who may swim in any order. The team of a swimmer whose feet have lost contact with the starting-platform (ground, deck, or wall) before the preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified.~~

~~G Competitors shall be allowed to swim only once per meet in each of the following relays: men's/women's 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle; and mixed 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle. Mixed relays shall consist of two men and two women who may swim in any order.~~

~~H The team of a swimmer whose feet have lost contact with the starting platform (ground, deck, or wall) before the preceding teammate touches the wall shall be disqualified. Competitors shall be allowed to swim only once per meet in each of the following relays: men's/women's 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle; and mixed 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle.~~

Rationale: Order as in USA-S 101.7.3 (move H to F, and move F and G to G and H), because USMS's F and G are not in the USA-S Rule Book.

R 11	101.7.3G	pages 5 & 8	Rules Committee	Modify (by moving the rule)			
-------------	-----------------	-------------	------------------------	-----------------------------	--	--	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.7 Relays

101.7.3 Rules Pertaining to Relay Races

~~101.7.3G~~ **102.9.8** Competitors shall be allowed to swim only once per meet in each of the following relays: men's/women's 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle; and mixed 200 medley, 400 medley, 200 freestyle, 400 freestyle, and 800 freestyle.

Rationale: Move 101.7.3G to 102.9.8 since it is a relay entry rule rather than a relay technical rule.

R 12	101.7.4	page 5	Rules Committee	Add			
-------------	----------------	--------	------------------------	-----	--	--	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.7 Relays

101.7.4—See article 102.9 for additional relay rules.

Rationale: Add new section to reference additional rules pertaining to relays.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 12) 102.9.8	page 8	Rules Committee	Add (& renumber 102.9.9 if R 11 passes)			
-----------------------	--------	------------------------	-----------------------------------------	--	--	--

102.9 Relays

102.9.8—See article 101.7 for additional relay rules.

R 13	102.4.2	page 6	Rules Committee	Modify			
-------------	----------------	--------	------------------------	--------	--	--	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.4 Warm-up/Warm-down

102.4.2 Procedure—Swimmers must enter the pool feet first in a cautious and controlled manner. Diving and backstroke starts shall be permitted only in the designated lanes. No hand paddles are allowed.

Rationale: Doing backstroke starts in warm up and warm down areas not open for diving starts is equally dangerous.

R 14 102.5 pages 6-7 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.5 Events

In planning any meet, careful consideration must be given the demands to be made upon swimmers, officials, and spectators, in that order. Meets should be planned to terminate within a reasonable period of time each day. Planning should provide for adequate meal and rest breaks and sheltered rest areas.

Any event conducted must be offered for all age groups and both genders. Any of the following events may be conducted.

Rationale: Clarify groups.

R 15 102.5.1 page 7 **Indiana** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.5 Events

102.5.1 Short Course (25) Yards

25-50-100-200-500-1000-1650 yards freestyle

25-50-100-200 yards backstroke

25-50-100-200 yards breaststroke

25-50-100-200 yards butterfly

100-200-400 yards individual medley

100-200-400-800 yards freestyle relay

100-200-400-800 yards mixed freestyle relay

100-200-400 yards medley relay

100-200-400 yards mixed medley relay

Rationale: 25-yard races may be less intimidating for new swimmers. Adding 25-yard races and 100-yard relays will increase meet participation, meet revenues, and swimmer recognition through Top 10, All American, and All Star programs.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 15) 104.5.2D page 31 **Indiana** Modify

D Alternative meet schedules—Alternative meet schedules may be approved as follows:

(1) A meet bidder may, with the approval of the Championship Committee, bid for a national championship meet with a different schedule from those defined in article 104.5.2A.

(2) A meet host may, with the approval of the Championship Committee, bid for a national championship meet with a schedule that includes 25-yard individual events and/or 100-yard relay events.

(23) The Championship Committee has the authority to approve other changes in the meet schedule, as necessary, prior to the publication of the meet entry form in order to improve the efficiency of a particular national championship meet.

R 16 102.6 page 7 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.6 Event Limit

A swimmer may compete in not more than five individual events per day (or three individual events if the meet is a trials/finals format) and shall compete not more than once in each individual event entered (unless the meet is a trials/finals format). If, however, due to conditions beyond the control of meet officials, an event or events are postponed to a subsequent day of the meet, such postponed events shall not be included in the five (or three) events per day limitation.

Rationale: Swimming once in an event was probably the intent of the rules authors regarding meet entries. This change would, however, allow for a meet that offers an event more than once in a meet with different event numbers.

R 17	102.7	page 7	Rules Committee				Modify
-------------	--------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.7 ~~Entry Fees~~ Entries

A. Each competitor shall enter with the full name as it appears on the USMS registration card.

B. Entry fee policies for local Masters events shall be set by the LMSC.

Rationale: This is required for relays in 102.9.5, but the rules have been silent about the name on individual entries. Name discrepancies on entries have caused problems.

R 18	102.11.4E	page 12	Rules Committee				Modify
-------------	------------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.11.4E Postponement or Cancellation

E Incomplete events will not be awarded or scored; however, times achieved in accordance with articles 103.17 and 103.18 up to the point of cancellation shall be considered official.

Rationale: Consistent with USA-S language (adding the reference to official time).

R 19	102.12.1E	page 13	Pacific				Modify
-------------	------------------	---------	----------------	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.12 Swimwear for Pool Competition

102.12.1 Design

E No swimmer is permitted to wear or use any device or substance to enhance speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a race (such as webbed gloves, fins, power bands, adhesive substances, snorkels, neoprene caps, etc.). Goggles may be worn, and rubdown oil applied if not considered excessive by the referee. Medical identification items may be worn. Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot, or glove on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

Rationale: It can be confusing for a referee to decide if bandages, finger cots, and rubber gloves are to be approved by the referee or require a medical exemption.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

303.7.2D page 70 Pacific Modify

303.7.2 Rules for Category I Swimwear for Open Water Events

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a swim (such as wetsuits, webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, buoyant armbands, etc.). Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot, or glove on the body or flat armband is not permitted unless approved by the referee. Any devices used to maintain body heat are not permitted, except for those listed in article 303.7.2A.

303.7.3C page 71 Pacific Modify

303.7.3 Rules for Category II Swimwear for Open Water Events

C Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any additional device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy, or endurance during a swim (such as webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, etc.), except in designated events where all swimmers may use similar devices or substances. Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot, or glove on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

R 20 103.2.2 page 16 Rules Committee Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.2.2 Timers—Two timers per lane if fully automatic timing is not being used. One timer per lane if fully automatic timing is used.

Rationale: Clarify that a timing system with buttons but no touchpads is not automatic timing; fully automatic timing means using touchpads. Also add definition (below) for the term “fully automatic” which appears on pages 40, 143, 152, and 155 of the rule book.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 20) Glossary page xii Rules Committee Add

Fully automatic timing—not semiautomatic timing; automatic start and touchpads are required.

R 21 103.3 page 16 Rules Committee Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.3 Qualification of Officials

103.3.1 Referees shall be certified in this capacity by a USA Swimming, USMS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body (Appendix B). Starters or stroke and turn judges certified by one of these bodies may serve as referees if they receive training on specific duties of the referee.

103.3.2 Starters and stroke and turn judges shall be certified in said capacities by a USA Swimming, USMS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body (Appendix B). However, uncertified officials may perform the duties of such positions if they receive training in the specified duties of their positions and are under the direct supervision of a certified official.

Rationale: Move the list of USMS-approved certifying bodies to Appendix B and keep the list in one place as already provided in Appendix B, page 141, first paragraph.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 21) 104.5.10B page 37 **Rules Committee** Modify

104.5.10 Personnel (also see article 103)

B Officials (last paragraph)

All officials shall be certified by ~~USA Swimming, USMS, YMCA, or any other~~ a USMS-approved certifying body (Appendix B) in the capacity to which they are assigned. An official may serve in only one officiating position during any event, except that during freestyle events 400 meters and longer, the referee and starter may double as stroke and turn judges.

R 22 103.5 page 16 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.5 Meet Committee

The meet committee is appointed... Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: ordering awards; obtaining a sanction; preparing the facility; verifying proper certification of pool length as described in 105.1.7; arranging for personnel, equipment, and supplies necessary for meet operation; processing entries; printing programs; arranging appropriate publicity and media coverage; preparing and distributing a summary of results within 14 days after the meet; and filing an LMSC report.

Rationale: Pool measurements, especially for bulkhead pools, have not been done properly at some sanctioned meets, and swimmers have lost records and top ten times. This is an additional reminder to meet directors to properly verify course measurements.

R 23 103.11.2D page 21 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.11.2 Head Lane Timer—The head lane timer shall:

~~D Determine and report~~ Report and indicate on the timing recording form if the swimmer has delayed in touching or has missed the touchpad at the finish, or there is reason to believe the semiautomatic or manual times may be inaccurate. When overhead video cameras replace timers, this responsibility shall be assigned to other meet personnel.

Rationale: Consistent with change made by USA-S during their editing process.

R 24 103.18.4 page 26 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.18.4 The official time to establish records and Top 10 times can be achieved only in accordance with the following timing methods:

Timing method	Official time level
Automatic timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World records, USMS national records, and USMS Top 10 times• Initial splits for all purposes• Relay leadoff times for all purposes
Semiautomatic with three buttons	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• World records, USMS national records, and USMS Top 10 times

or <u>manual with</u> three watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial splits and relay leadoff times for world records and USMS Top 10 times
Semiautomatic with two buttons or <u>manual with</u> two watches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USMS Top 10 times • Initial splits and relay leadoff times for USMS Top 10 times

Rationale: Clarifying language.

R 25	104.1.2	page 27	Championship Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.1 Meet Categories

USMS national championship meets shall be awarded in the following categories and held during the following dates:

104.1.2 Long Course (50) Meters—Between ~~August 1~~ July 15 and ~~September 15~~ August 31.

Rationale: Only one Summer Nationals has ever been held in September (1974). September conflicts with the beginning of school, youth competitive swim programs, and convention. This will give the same time range as for Spring Nationals (1 ½ months).

R 26	104.3.4	page 28	Championship Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.3 Awarding of National Championship Meets

104.3.4 Bid Deadline—All bids for a national championship meet shall be submitted to the chair of the Championship Committee no later than July 1 (or the next business day if July 1 falls on a Sunday ~~or holiday~~). If no timely certifiable bid is received, the Championship Committee shall continue to solicit bids.

Rationale: There are no holidays on July 1.

R 27	104.3.4	page 28	Championship Committee	Modify			
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.3 Awarding of National Championship Meets

104.3.4 Bid Deadline—All bids for a national championship meet shall be submitted to the chair of the Championship Committee no later than ~~July~~ June 1 (or the next business day if ~~July~~ June 1 falls on a Sunday ~~or holiday~~). If no timely certifiable bid is received, the Championship Committee shall continue to solicit bids.

Rationale: Since the Championship Committee awards the bids prior to convention, an earlier deadline will give the committee more time to make the decisions and notify bid winners, giving winners ample time to make travel arrangements to attend convention. The current deadline interferes with the evaluation of Spring Nationals, preparations for Summer Nationals, and preparations for convention. June 1 has no holidays.

R 28	104.4.5	page 29	Championship Committee	Modify
-------------	----------------	---------	-------------------------------	--------

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

104.4 USMS Assistance and Agreements

104.4.5 Meet Report—The meet director of each national championship meet shall submit a written report to the chair of the Championship Committee within 60 days of the end of competition. This report shall include a complete financial report, copies of meet information, entry forms, ~~final results~~, lessons learned, suggestions, and any other information that may be helpful to future meet directors.

Rationale: Final results are now prepared by the national office, so meet hosts should not be required to furnish final results with the meet report.

R 29 104.5.2 page 29 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

104.5.2 Program Schedule—A four-day program schedule for national championship meets will be used. With the approval of the Championship Committee, a five-day program schedule may be used.

Rationale: Replace the word “program” with “schedule” since the rest of the article refers to “schedule” not program.

R 30 104.5.2 pages 29-31 **Championship Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

104.5 Conduct of National Championship Meets

104.5.2 Program—A four-day or five-day program for national championship meets will be used. ~~With the approval of the Championship Committee, a five-day program may be used.~~ The Championship Committee will set the meet schedule for each national championship meet.

(THE FOLLOWING IS ALL STRICKEN LANGUAGE.)

~~A Meet schedules (2014–2015)~~

Schedule 1	Schedule 2	Schedule 3
2015 SC	2014 SC 2015 LC	2014 LC
Day 1** 800/1000 free 1500/1650 free	Day 1** 800/1000 free 1500/1650 free	Day 1 1500 free
Day 2 400 IM 100 fly 200 free 50 breast 100 back 200 free relay (mixed)	Day 2 400 IM 100 fly 50 free 200 back 100 breast 200 free relay (mixed) 200 medley relay	Day 2 200 fly 50 breast 100 free 800 free
Day 3 400/500 free*** 100 IM 200 back 100 breast 50 free 200 fly	Day 3 400/500 free*** 100 free 200 breast 100 IM* 50 back 200 fly	Day 3 400 IM 50 back 200 free 100 breast 200 free relay

200 medley relay (mixed) 200 free relay	200 free relay	
Day 4 400 free 400/500 free*** 200 medley relay 50 fly 200 breast 50 back 100 free 200 IM	Day 4 400/500 free*** 200 medley relay (mixed) 50 breast 100 back 200 free 50 fly 200 IM	Day 4 100 fly 50 free 200 back 200 free relay (mixed) 200 medley relay (mixed)
		Day 5 200 medley relay 100 back 200 IM 50 fly 200 breast

* The 100 IM is swum in short course nationals only.

** With Championship Committee approval, a swimmer may compete in both of the two longest freestyle events at the meet. The Championship Committee shall decide how national qualifying times will affect the entry.

*** Men swim these events on Day 3 and women on Day 4 in odd-numbered years; women swim on Day 3 and men on Day 4 in even-numbered years.

B Rotation of meet schedules—The particular schedule shall be rotated in order (1, 2, and 3) among the three basic schedules shown in article 104.5.2A without regard to course.

(1) In odd-numbered years, men's events shall be odd-numbered. In even-numbered years, men's events shall be even-numbered. On the distance day only, men's and women's heats may be alternated regardless of whether the year is odd-numbered or even-numbered.

(2) In each schedule, at the option of the meet director and with the approval of the Championship Committee, the 800/1000 freestyle and the 1500/1650 freestyle may be swum as either the first day program or the last day program.

(3) The three basic schedules shall be chosen every four years, starting in 1990, by a vote of the House of Delegates, from at least four alternatives presented by the Championship Committee. The selected schedules shall apply to the period starting two years after approval by the House of Delegates.

C Rotation of the 800/1500 and 1000/1650 freestyles—The order of the two distance events may be changed by agreement of the meet director and the Championship Committee.

D Alternative meet schedules—Alternative meet schedules may be approved as follows:

(1) A meet bidder may, with the approval of the Championship Committee, bid for a national championship meet with a different schedule from those defined in article 104.5.2A.

(2) The Championship Committee has the authority to approve other changes in the meet schedule, as necessary, prior to the publication of the meet entry form in order to improve the efficiency of a particular national championship meet.

(THE FOLLOWING IS ALL NEW LANGUAGE.)

A. A schedule used at one national championship meet shall not repeat for at least two years.

B. The Championship Committee shall publish the meet schedule no less than six months before the national championship meet begins.

C. In odd-numbered years, men's events shall be odd-numbered. In even-numbered years, men's events shall be even-numbered.

D. With Championship Committee approval, swimmers may compete in both of the two longest freestyle events at the meet. The Championship Committee shall decide how national qualifying times will affect the entry.

Rationale: The meet schedule should be Championship Committee policy. The Championship Committee is best informed to consider each meet host's facilities in order to create an event order that produces a time line that is best for swimmers and volunteers.

R 31	104.5.3A	page 31	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.3 Event Limit

A Individual events—Competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of six individual events, ~~(or five individual events, if~~ If deemed necessary by the Championship Committee), competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of five individual events. Competitors are limited to ~~with~~ a maximum of three individual events per day.

Rationale: Divide one sentence into three sentences.

R 32	104.5.3A	page 31	Michigan				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.3A Individual events - Competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of six individual events (or five individual events if deemed necessary by the Championship Committee), with a maximum of three individual events per day. Swimmers who satisfy the qualifying times for both the 800/1000 and 1500/1650 freestyle must have opportunity to enter and swim both of those events.

Rationale: It is discriminatory to distance swimmers when the Championship Committee determines that swimmers may compete in only one of the two longest distance freestyle events.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

104.5.2A, footnote ** page 30 **Michigan** Delete

104.5.2A Meet schedules - (footnote to tables showing schedules of events) ~~**With Championship Committee approval, a swimmer may compete in both of the two longest freestyle events at the meet. The Championship Committee shall decide how national qualifying times will affect the entry.~~

R 33	104.5.3C(2)	page 32	Michigan				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.3 Event Limit

C National qualifying times

104.5.3C(2) Event limit - When qualifying times are in effect, competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of three individual events of 200 meters or less without meeting the established qualifying standards. The Championship Committee may limit participation in either the 800/1000 or the 1500/1650 freestyle to only those who meet the national qualifying time for that event. Competitors may enter up to three additional events (or two if the maximum event limit is five) in which they have in the past two years achieved a time equal to or better than the qualifying time for those events.

Rationale: The meet timeline can be managed by restricting swimmers who do not have qualifying times only to events 200 yards/meters and shorter.

R 34 104.5.3C(2) page 32 **Gulf** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.3 Event Limit

C National qualifying times

(2) Event Limit—When qualifying times (NQTs) are in effect, competitors may enter and swim in a maximum of three individual events without meeting the established NQTs. ~~qualifying standards. The Championship Committee may limit participation in either the 800/1000 or the 1500/1650 freestyle to only those who meet the national qualifying time for that event.~~ Competitors may also enter up to three additional events (or two if the maximum event limit is five) in which they have in the past two years achieved a time equal to or better than the NQTs ~~qualifying time~~ for those events. The Championship Committee may choose to specify entry rules to limit participation in either the 800/1000 and/or the 1500/1650 freestyle by specifying one or more of the following entry rules:

- (a) Competitors with or without the NQT may enter only one of these events.
- (b) Only competitors who meet the NQT in both events may enter both events.
- (c) Competitors may be required to have met the NQT for one specified event in order to enter that particular event but may enter the other event without the NQT.

Rationale: To clarify that the entry options for the two longest events allow the most flexibility to the Championship Committee for time management of these events, while also giving possible competitive advantages to the fastest distance swimmers. This will still allow a non-NQT swimmer to enter one of the longest events.

R 35 104.5.4A(1) page 32 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.4 Entry Procedures

A Eligibility/affiliation

(1) USMS membership—USMS individual membership numbers and club names and abbreviations must be submitted on all entry forms together with entry times. “Pending” ~~(except for 18-year olds)~~ for as a membership number shall not be permitted except for 18-year-olds as follows: A swimmer who will turn 18 by the day prior to the beginning of competition must enter the meet by the entry deadline as a 17-year-old, provided the swimmer registers with USMS no later than the day prior to competition. An 18-year-old must enter the meet by the entry deadline and must register for USMS membership prior to the first day of the meet. An 18-year-old may register for USMS membership at the championship venue on the day prior to the beginning of competition and must be 18 by that date.

Rationale: Less awkward sentence.

R 36 104.5.4C(2) page 33 **Rules Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

(2) Relay entry deadline—A relay may be entered until the day before it is scheduled to be swum as per meet information. Participants therein must have entered the meet by the individual entry deadline.

Rationale: This currently implies that a relay can be entered any time the day before, which is not true.

R 37 104.5.4C(3) page 33 **Championship Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.4 Entry Procedures

C Entry deadline

~~(3) **Postmark deadline**—The meet director may establish a U.S. Postal Service postmark deadline seven days prior to the individual entry deadline. If a postmark deadline is established, individual entries postmarked by a U.S. Postal Service office in the 50 states by midnight of that date shall be considered on time. Private or corporate meter postmarks will not be accepted.~~

Entry Receipt Deadline—The Championship Committee may establish an entry receipt deadline. All entries must be received by USMS by that deadline to be considered on time.

Rationale: With 99% of the national championship entries received on line, the postmark date is almost obsolete. Mailed entries will have the same receipt deadline as online entries.

R 38 104.5.4D(2) page 33 **Championship Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.4 Entry Procedures

D Entry fees

~~(2) A banquet or social event may be conducted for an additional fee. Participation in this event is optional.~~

Rationale: Not necessary as a rule; optional event (e.g., parking passes and shuttle passes are not in the rules either).

R 39 104.5.5A(4) page 34 **Gulf** Add

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.5 Seeding

A General procedures for seeding (also see article 102.10)

(4) Events 200 yards/meters and longer shall be seeded by one of the following methods:

(a) By entry time only,

(b) By age group, the oldest age group first, slowest heats seeded first within each age group, then by time,
or

(c) By a combination of (a) and (b).

(d) When men and women are seeded together by time only, the fastest overall heat of women shall be seeded women only, with that heat placed directly before the fastest heat of men.

The Championship Committee shall make all seeding decisions.

Rationale: Gender equality; when men and women are seeded together, each gender would have a “championship” heat.

R 40	104.5.8B	page 36	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.8 Results

B Publication of meet results—Meet results in the appropriate format (see Appendix B, “Preparation of Meet Results”) and club scores shall be published within 30 days of the last day of the meet and posted on the USMS website. Electronic files shall be sent to the Championship Committee chair and the USMS Records and Tabulations Committee chair, and a hard copy shall be sent to the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee chair or designee.

Rationale: More exact reference.

R 41	104.5.10B	page 37	Officials Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

104.5.10 Personnel (also see article 103)

B Officials—The meet host shall appoint a meet referee, ~~and an administrative official referee, a head starter, and a chief judge,~~ subject to qualification standards established by the USMS Officials Committee. ~~A head starter shall also be assigned.~~

The minimum requirements for the following positions shall be assigned for each session shall be:

- one deck referee for each course,
- one starter for each course,
- one chief judge for each course.

A sufficient number of stroke and turn judges shall be assigned in order to provide fair and equitable jurisdictions per article 103.10.4 and shall meet the following minimum requirements:

- two turn judges at each end of each course covering a maximum of five lanes per judge,
- one stroke judge on each side of a 50-meter course,
- one official at the 15-meter mark of each course for all starts and turns except breaststroke.

In addition to the officials listed above, it is strongly recommended that additional officials ~~may~~ be assigned in order to provide adequate relief for all officials during each session.

All officials shall be certified by USA Swimming, USMS, YMCA, or any other USMS-approved certifying body in the capacity to which they are assigned. ~~An official may serve in only one officiating position during any event, except that during freestyle events 400 meters and longer, the referee and starter may double as stroke and turn judges.~~

Rationale: Current rule is not specific enough for national championship meet organizers, and it conflicts with the language of 103.2.1A&B. A definition of administrative referee is below, since it is currently not defined in the rule book.

Other articles that would require changing in order to maintain consistency:

(R 41) Glossary page xi **Officials Committee** Add

Administrative Referee—an official certified as an administrative referee who supervises entries, seeding, determination of official times, results, and meet personnel assisting with these duties.

R 42 104.5.11E page 38 **Championship Committee** Delete

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.5.11 Facilities and Equipment (also see article 107)

~~E The organization conducting the national championship meet shall use a computer to compile entry lists, heat sheets, entry cards, and final results.~~

Rationale: Not necessary as no one today would consider running a national championship meet without computers.

R 43 105.1.7E page 39 **Records & Tabulation Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

105.1.7 Pool Measurement

105.1.7E If a moveable bulkhead is used and the initial pool length certification for all lanes is on file, the measurement rules and policies of USA Swimming shall be the standard for Top 10 eligibility for events sanctioned or approved by USA-S. A bulkhead placement confirmation measurement is required for a USMS record set at events sanctioned or approved by USA-S. The measurement rules and policies of USMS shall apply for dual sanctioned events.

Rationale: The additions are to clarify that bulkhead confirmations are still needed for USMS records set at USA-S events. In addition USA-S approved meets have the same requirement as USA-S sanctioned meets for bulkheads.

R 44 105.2.1 page 39 **Records & Tabulation Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

105.2 Top 10 Times

105.2.1 The National Top 10 Times list shall be published annually for 10 best times nationally in each age division and for each gender ~~shall be published annually~~ for the events listed under article 102.5.

Rationale: The National Top Ten times are the official top times which have been verified and achieved by registered USMS-members, whereas the "10 best times nationally" phrase could be misinterpreted as including times from the event ranking list, non-USMS member foreign swimmer times, "not-verified" times, or times from pools that did not meet pool length measurement requirements.

R 45 105.2.3 page 40 **Records & Tabulation Committee** Modify

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

105.2.3 In order for a time to be valid for Top 10 times consideration, a minimum primary timing quality of two manual times, averaged per USMS rules (see article 103.17.3), shall be used.

Rationale: To clarify that two watches are required if manual timing is the “primary” timing system, and to further clarify that if automatic timing is used with one watch as the back up timing system and the automatic timing system fails, the adjusted time from the valid one-watch back up is eligible for Top 10 times consideration (103.18.7).

R 46	107.13.3	page 45	Rules Committee				Add
-------------	-----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	-----

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

107.13.3 Marking at Midpoint of Course—For long course backstroke, individual medley and medley relay events a firmly stretched ¼-inch (7-millimeter) line without flags or pennants may be suspended at the midpoint of the course.

Rationale: Since a midpoint line is still an option, it needs to be defined in the rule book.

R 47	107.17.3	page 46	Rules Committee				Modify
-------------	-----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

107.17.3 Touchpads

B Markings—Panel face markings shall conform to and superimpose on pool end wall markings as closely as possible. Perimeter edges of the panel shall have a 1-inch-wide (0.025-meter) black border. [NC]

Rationale: Add the metric conversion.

R 48	108.2.1	page 48	Rules Committee				Modify
-------------	----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

108.2 Blind and Visually Impaired

108.2.1 Start—With an audible starting system, no modification is usually required for a swimmer who is blind or has vision loss. ~~The~~ A swimmer may, however, require assistance getting to ~~and on the block~~ chosen starting position.

Rationale: More accurate language, since a swimmer may start from positions other than on the block.

R 49	108.5.1E(4)	page 50	Rules Committee				Modify
-------------	--------------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

108.5 Physical Disabilities

108.5.1 Start—Swimmers with physical disabilities:

E Shall use a forward start for breaststroke and butterfly. The referee, however, may allow modifications, such as the following:

(4) For breaststroke and butterfly, after the start and after each turn, a swimmer who is unable to push off with the leg(s) may perform one asymmetrical stroke to attain the breast position.

Rationale: “leg(s)” is consistent with USA-S language. It could be one or both legs.

R 50	108.5.2	page 51	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

108.5.2 Stroke/Kick—In judging the stroke or kick of a swimmer with a physical disability, the referee and stroke and turn judge should follow the general rule that if a part of the body is absent or cannot be used, it is not judged; if it is used during the stroke or kick, it should be judged in accordance with the USMS rules.

Judgments should be made based on the actual rule—not on the swimmer’s technique. For example, the breaststroke swimmer with one arm or leg shorter than the other may have a nonsymmetrical stroke or kick, but as long as the arm or leg action is simultaneous, it would meet that portion of the rule.

Rationale: Consistent with USA-S language.

HOUSEKEEPING

HK 1	Glossary	page xi	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Event—any clinic, demonstration, series of races in a given stroke and distance, or meet; including pool, long distance, and open water.

Rationale: Clarify with semicolon that “pool, long distance, and open water” refer to all previous items in the sentence not just to “meet”, and add comma after “distance”.

HK 2	Glossary	page xiv	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Length—the extent of the course from end to end.

Rationale: Add “the” in the beginning.

HK 3	Glossary	page xiv	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Still Water—water contained within four walls or landlocked, having no perceptible current or movement other than that caused by wind or by swimmers. (~~Circulatory systems should be off during competition.~~)

Rationale: Same sentence was deleted from 107.5 last year through adoption of a USA-S rule change, because no state allows a pool circulation system to be turned off.

HK 4	Glossary	page xiv	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

Straightaway Swim—any swim of any length where the course shall be a straight, measured distance, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer.

Rationale: Comma after “distance” unnecessary.

HK 5 101.2.2	page 2	Rules Committee					Modify
---------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.2 Breaststroke

101.2.2 Stroke—After the start and after each turn when the swimmer leaves the wall, the ~~shoulders must be at or past the vertical toward the breast~~ the body shall be kept on the breast. (Rest of language is unchanged.)

Rationale: Consistent with USA-S and FINA language and corrects a text error that occurred in 2009.

HK 6 101.4.4	page 4	Rules Committee					Modify
---------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.4.4 Finish—Upon the finish of the race, the swimmer must touch the wall while on the back. ~~The body may be submerged at the touch.~~

Rationale: Adopted corresponding FINA and USA Swimming language last year but overlooked making the required change in this rule.

HK 7 101.6.2	page 4	Rules Committee					Modify
---------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

101.6.2 Stroke—The stroke for each one-fourth of the designated distance shall follow the prescribed rules for each that stroke.

Rationale: Parallel structure to 101.6.3A.

HK 8 102.9.5	page 8	Rules Committee					Modify
---------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.9 Relays

102.9.5 On the relay card, relay teams must list the name of the club, the full name (as it appears on the USMS membership card), the age, and for mixed relays, the gender of each relay member. The name of the leadoff swimmer must be clearly designated.

Rationale: Add a comma between “relays” and “the gender”.

HK 9 102.10.1B	page 8	Rules Committee					Modify
-----------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.10.1 Seeding Principles for Masters Competition

B Age groups and/or genders, as well as events of the same distance 200 yards or longer, may be combined so that no swimmer has to swim alone and lanes may be filled.

Rationale: Add commas after “genders” and “longer”.

HK 10 102.10.2B	page 9	Rules Committee					Modify
------------------------	--------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.10.2 Heat and Lane Assignments

B Minimum number of swimmers per heat—When there are two or more heats, there shall be a minimum of three swimmers or relay teams seeded into the slowest heat. The fastest heat shall be filled first, then the next fastest heat, etc.

Rationale: Add a comma after “heats”.

HK 11 102.10.6C	page 11	Rules Committee					Modify
------------------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

102.10.6 Counters

C If visual counters are used, they may be stationed at the end or either side of the pool beyond the halfway point toward the end of the course opposite the starting end. Visual counters may be lowered into the water at the end of the swimmer’s lane, provided that, in the opinion of the referee, they neither physically aid the swimmer nor interfere with another competitor nor present any safety hazard.

Rationale: Change “or” to “nor” in both cases in the last sentence.

HK 12 103.2.1A	page 15	Rules Committee					Modify
-----------------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.2.1 Officials

A One referee—The referee may also serve as a stroke and turn judge, but shall not serve as starter.

Rationale: Comma after “judge” unnecessary.

HK 13 103.6.1 & 103.7.1, & .2	pages 16-18	Rules Committee					Modify
----------------------------------------------	-------------	------------------------	--	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

103.6 Referee

103.6.1 The referee ~~shall~~:

A Shall ~~H~~have full authority over all officials;

B Shall assign and instruct ~~them,~~ all officials.

C Shall enforce all applicable rules and shall decide all questions relating to the actual conduct of the meet, the final settlement of which is not otherwise assigned by said rules, ~~and~~.

D Can overrule any meet official on a point of rule interpretation or on a judgment decision pertaining to an action that the referee has personally observed.

103.7 Administrative Official

103.7.1 The administrative official shall be responsible to the referee for the supervision of the following:

- A The entry and registration process;
- B Clerk of course;
- C Timing equipment operator; ~~and~~
- D Other administrative personnel.

103.7.2 The administrative official shall be responsible to the referee for:

- A The accurate processing of entries and scratches;
- B Accurate seeding of heats;
- C Determination and recording of official time:
 - (1) Receiving and reviewing the automatic and/or semiautomatic timing results from the timing equipment operator and comparing primary timing results with the backup timing results to determine their validity;
 - (2) Receiving the times recorded by the head lane timers from the chief timer and using that data to the extent needed to determine the official time for each swimmer;
 - (3) Unless otherwise directed, notifying the referee whenever a time obtained by the primary timing system cannot be used as the official time; ~~and~~
 - (4) Recording disqualifications approved by the referee.
- D Determination of the official results; ~~and~~
- E Publication and posting of results of each event by gender and age group and scores (scores optional).

Rationale: Parallel structure of lists and correct punctuation.

HK 14	103.8.3A	page 18	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.8.3 **Optional Instructions**—the starter may:

- A Announce the event (~~recommended~~).

Rationale: Consistent with change made by USA-S during their editing process.

HK 15	103.13	page 21	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.13 Marshals

Marshals shall wear identifying attire and enforce warm-up procedures and maintain order in the swimming venue. The marshal shall have full authority to warn or order to cease and desist and, with the concurrence of the referee, to remove or have removed from the swimming venue anyone behaving in an unsafe manner or using profane or abusive language, or those whose actions are disrupting the orderly conduct of the meet.

Rationale: Parallel sentence structure with other position descriptions.

HK 16	103.15	page 22	Rules Committee				Modify
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

103.15 Recorder of Records

The recorder of records shall obtain from the administrative official all times made in each event, shall have proper application forms and shall duly process all record claims as set forth in article 105.

Rationale: Parallel sentence structure with other position descriptions.

HK 17	104.3.1	page 28	Rules Committee				Modify
--------------	----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.3 Awarding of National Championship Meets

104.3.1 Solicitation of Bids—The USMS Championship Committee shall be responsible for the solicitation of bids with an emphasis on soliciting bids from all areas of the country.

Rationale: Add the article “an”.

HK 18	104.3.3	page 28	Rules Committee				Modify
--------------	----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

104.3.3 Bid Information—The Championship Committee shall provide a bidder with the appropriate bid documents, financial statements, meet contract, ~~and~~ previous championships’ meet reports, and all other information pertaining to the policies and procedures of running a national championship meet.

Rational: The correct conjunction is placed after “meet reports”.

HK 19	106.1	page 41	Rules Committee				Modify
--------------	--------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

106.1 Medical Examination

Each competitor is strongly encouraged to have a complete medical evaluation before beginning Masters swimming training. In addition, it is ~~also~~ recommended that each competitor have a physical checkup immediately prior to Masters swimming competition to ensure physical readiness for participation.

Rationale: “Also” is redundant because of “In addition”.

HK 20	107.2.1D	page 42	Rules Committee				Modify
--------------	-----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
----------------	---------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

D Dimensional tolerance—Against the required length, a tolerance of minus 0.00 meter in each lane used for competition on both end walls at all points from 0.3 meter above (if the wall or timing pad extends to this height, ~~or~~ otherwise to the top of the wall or pad ~~otherwise~~) to 0.8 meter below the surface of the water is allowed. [M_‡]

Rationale: Better placement of “otherwise” and delete “or”.

HK 21	107.2.3A	page 42	Rules Committee				Modify
--------------	-----------------	---------	------------------------	--	--	--	--------

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

107.2.3 Water Depth

A Starting end—Minimum water depth for racing starts, as measured for a distance of 3 feet, 3½ inches (1.0 meter) to 16 feet, 5 inches (5.0 meters) from the end wall, during either competition or practice, shall be as follows:

Rationale: Add comma after “practice”.

HK 22	107.4.1	page 43	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

107.4.1 Pool Bottom Lane Markers—Minimum 10-inch-wide (25-centimeter) lines of a dark contrasting color (preferably black) shall be provided in the middle of each racing lane on the bottom of the pool. The lines shall, preferably, should be uninterrupted the length of the course and shall end with a distinctive cross line 3 feet, 4 inches (1.0 meter) long and the same width as the bottom center marker. The line, including the cross line, shall terminate 6 feet, 7 inches (2.0 meters) from each end wall. [M*, NC]

Rationale: “shall, preferably” means “should”; consistent with USA-S language.

HK 23	107.17.4	page 46	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

107.17.4 Optional Accessories—Automatic timing equipment may provide relay judging capability, automatic lap counting, split time readouts for all lanes, correction of erroneous touch, and television equipment tie-in. Any corrections or impulses generated by the equipment operators shall be clearly identified on the results printout.

Rationale: Add comma after “touch”.

HK 24	107.18	page 47	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

107.18 Electrical Safety

All permanent or temporary electrical connections to the electronic loudspeaker start system, automatic timing equipment, and other electrical or electronic devices operating on line voltages in the vicinity of the racing course shall be made only from groundfault circuit interrupter (GFI) protected convenience receptacles or circuits. In the event such receptacles or circuits are not available in the facility used for competition, portable UL-approved self-contained GFI outlet fittings shall be provided (furnished and installed) at the nonprotected convenience receptacles by the meet management, meet director, or the equipment operator(s), whenever such equipment is connected and in use. [M]

Rationale: Parallel structure of phrases in a series, and add comma after “operator(s)”.

HK 25	108.1.2B(3)	page 47	Rules Committee				Modify
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

B Referee—The referee’s responsibilities include:

(3) Modifications—Aids to buoyancy ~~and~~ or speed are not allowed (see articles 102.12.1E and 102.13.9). Some of the modifications that the referee may make to accommodate the swimmer with a disability are:

- (a) A change in starting position.
- (b) Reassignment of lanes within a heat (e.g., exchanging lanes two and seven).
- (c) Allowing the swimmer to have a personal assistant(s).

Rationale: Consistent with USA-S language and correct punctuation.

HK 26 **108.2.2** page 48 **Rules Committee** **Modify**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

108.2 Blind and Visually Impaired

108.2.2 Turns and Finishes—A swimmer who is blind or has vision loss is permitted to have personal assistants (“tappers;”) who use poles with soft-tipped ends to tap the swimmer as notification of turns and the finish). Sound devices shall not be used. It is the swimmer’s responsibility to provide the tapper(s), who shall be positioned within the confines of the swimmer’s lane at the ends of the pool.

Rationale: Delete quotation marks and comma from (tappers) and enclose tappers alone in parentheses.

Proposed Changes to the USMS Open Water and Long Distance Swimming Rules

In accordance with section 601.1.4, the Long Distance Committee submits the following 64 proposals for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2014 Convention.

Proposals concerning reorganization of Part 3 are LD 12, 13, 18, 19, 25, 41, 46, 53, 55, and 64.

Proposals of major substance are LD 2, 6, 7, 21, 27, 29, 40, and 50.

Proposals of some substance are LD 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 51, 54, 57, 59, 60, and 62.

Housekeeping proposals are LD 1, 11, 15, 17, 22, 24, 28, 45, 47, 48, 49, 52, 58, 61, and 63.

LD 1	301.3.1&2, 301.5.1&2	pages 65-6	Long Distance Committee			
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

301.3.1 ~~Participants~~ Swimmers with one-event registrations shall not be eligible to compete in open water and postal national championships, nor shall they be eligible for records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards.

301.3.2 All ~~participants~~ swimmers in national championship postal events must be currently registered members of USMS or a FINA-member national governing body on or before the day of their swim.

301.5.1 In an open water swim, the eligibility of a ~~participant~~ swimmer shall be determined by the age of the ~~participant~~ swimmer as of the last day of the event, except for 18-year-olds, who must be 18 on the day that they swim.

301.5.2 In a postal swim, the eligibility of a ~~participant~~ swimmer shall be determined by the age of the ~~participant~~ swimmer as of the day of the swim.

Rationale: Housekeeping (preferred rules language).

LD 2	302.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee			
Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2 OPEN WATER SWIMS COURSES

Overall Rationale: Oddly, there is little mention of courses or course specifications in current USMS rules. This proposal remedies those omissions, and reorganizes this article for clarity. The topics and language of the proposal is taken largely from USA-Swimming Rule 702.7, but modified to be more

flexible and appropriate to the variety of USMS open water events. Renumber after.

LD 3	302.2.1A (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.1 The Course

A The event director shall determine the course and type of start and finish for open water swims, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmers.

Rationale 1: Reorganization. Proposed new 302.2.1A has been moved from old 302.2.2.

Rationale #2: Adding “finish” makes this rule more complete.

Rationale 2: Housekeeping: redundant language (the heading of 302.2 already mentions open water, and safety is specifically addressed in current 303.2).

LD 4	302.2.1B (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

B The course shall be measured and marked as accurately as possible-feasible.

Rationale #1: Reorganization. Proposed new 302.2.1B has been moved from old 302.2.2.

Rationale #2: Amending the current language makes the measurement requirement more flexible (and probably less costly) for event hosts and more appropriate to local event conditions.

LD 5	302.2.1C (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

C Hazards on the course should be eliminated or marked wherever possible.

Rationale: This proposal addresses an obvious safety issue.

LD 6	302.2.2A (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.2A Water Conditions

A Water Temperature

(1) A swim shall not begin if the water temperature is less than 60° F. (15.6° C.), unless heat-retaining swimwear is required of all swimmers.

(2) A swim in which heat retaining swimwear is required of all swimmers shall not begin if the water temperature is less than 57° F. (13.9° C.).

(3) For swims of three miles or more, the **A** swim shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 29.45° C. (85° F.).

Note: Reorganization (New 302.2.2A(3) is moved from 302.5)

Rationale: Safety. This proposal aims to reduce significantly the risks from thermal issues from swimming in water that is dangerously cold or hot for most USMS members, but allowing some flexibility for those who choose to swim in wetsuits. USMS open water swimmer population, taken as a whole, are typically not elite athletes, in general do not acclimatize, spend more time (in some cases much more time) in the water, have more health-related problems, and are much more likely to be using medications which can alter their adaptability.

LD 7	302.2.2B (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

B Water Quality--If water quality meets the standards of the local testing authority, the water quality will be deemed acceptable.

Rationale: Safety. Using the standard and similar language adopted by USA-Swimming in Rule 702.3.1, modified for flexibility, this proposal aims to reduce the risks from swimming in water of unsafe quality.

LD 8	302.2.3 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.3 Starting Line

A The starting line shall be specifically designated and clearly defined.

B For swims starting from a platform or dock, the water depth shall be no less than 6 feet for the first 5 meters of the course. All swimmers in the pre-race safety meeting and before the start of each race/wave shall be advised of the depth of the water. Water depth markings on the starting platform or dock are recommended. The referee shall have this start area inspected for underwater hazards before the swim. The swim shall use an alternative method of starting if hazards cannot be eliminated.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 9	302.2.4 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.4 Turns

A All turns shall be clearly indicated.

B Turns shall be directional, and passed on the right or left as stated in the pre-swim

instructions

C Guide buoys may be used between turns to help swimmers navigate. These buoys shall be non-directional, and swimmers may pass these buoys on either side, except for floats on a straightaway swim course or when otherwise directed by the referee.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 10	302.2.5 & 6 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.5 Finish Line

A The finish line shall be specifically designated and clearly defined.

302.2.6 Feeding Stations

A Number of feeding stations for swims without individual escorts:

- (1) For swims 5-kilometers or shorter, feeding stations are optional.
- (2) For swims longer than 5-kilometers but shorter than 10-kilometers, at least one feeding station is required.
- (3) For swims 10-kilometers or longer, there shall be at least one feeding station every 2.5-kilometers.

B Feeding stations shall be fixed in position and shall safely accommodate the number of swimmers and feeders.

C Feeding stations shall be located on the inner or outer boundaries of the course.

D For swims requiring individual escorts, feeding stations are optional.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 11	302.2.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

302.2.1 STRAIGHTAWAY SWIMS COURSES

Rationale: Housekeeping (grammar—the article refers to the course, not the swim).

LD 12	302.2.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

A—The course shall be a straight, measured distance within plus or minus 6 inches, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer. Floats on the course shall be a maximum of 10 meters apart.

B Course measurement— If permanent fixed and stationary markers are used, a course shall be certified once every five years. If markers are not permanent, the course shall be certified by a licensed surveyor annually before the swim takes place.

Rationale: Process (since this current rule describes process, this proposal moves it to the OWGTO) and Housekeeping (no need for subheadings).

LD 13	302.2.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

~~**302.2.2 Other Open Water Swims**— The event director shall determine the course and type of start for open water swims, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmers. The course shall be measured as accurately as possible.~~

Rationale: Reorganization. These sentences will be moved to proposed 302.2.1 and 302.2.2.

LD 14	302.3.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

302.3.1 Cumulative relays are comprised of groups of swimmers from the same USMS-registered club entered in the individual swim. Cumulative relay swims may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

Rationale: Taken together with proposed 302.3.4, this proposal intends to define usual relay composition as being from the same club, using parallel structure with proposed 302.4.1 and current 302.4.4. This was inadvertently dropped during the 2012 rules reorganization involving this rule.

LD 15	302.3.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

302.3.2 Time or Distance Basis—A specified number of ~~contestants~~ swimmers on each relay shall be considered in the computations for ~~team~~ club scoring.

Rationale #1: Housekeeping (“swimmers” is the preferred term).

Rationale #2: Housekeeping (“club” is the correct term, as “team” in this context is not a USMS-recognized term).

LD 16	302.3.4	page 61	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

302.3.4 With the exception of National Championship events, the event director may allow special

events in which members of an open water relay need not be from the same club.

Rationale: This proposal allows event directors the flexibility of including special relay events, parallel with current 302.4.4 for sequential relays.

LD 17 **302.4.1** page 67 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

302.4.1 Relays shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form from the same USMS-registered club. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made within one minute after the completion of the previous swimmer's leg. In the exchange in open water relays, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers.

Rationale: Housekeeping; this meaning is implied by current 302.4.4, but needs to be stated clearly.

LD 18 **302.5** page 67 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

~~302.5 WATER CONDITIONS~~

~~For swims of three miles or more, the swim shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 85° F.~~

Rationale: Reorganization. This article is moved to 302.2.2A.

LD 19 **303** page 67 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303: Reorganize order of sub-articles:

<u>New</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Topic</u>
303.1	303.2	Safety
303.2	301.1	Scoring Divisions
303.3	303.5	Seeding
303.4	303.7	Swimwear
303.5	303.4	Starts
303.6	303.6	Finishes
303.7	303.8	Officials
303.8	303.9	Disqualifications
303.9	303.3	Escorted Swims
303.10	303.11	Solo Open Water Swim

303.11	303.12	Incomplete Race
303.12	303.10	Swimmers with Disabilities
303.13	303.13	Protests

Rationale: Reorganization: This proposal reorders the sub-articles under article 303 in a more logical and flowing order, making the rulebook easier to read.

LD 20 303.2.1 page 68 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.2.1 Event directors shall develop and maintain a written safety plan that ~~and is available for review by the LMSC authorized representative~~ must be reviewed by the LMSC authorized representative. Safety plans shall then be included in the sanction application and must be approved by USMS before issue of the sanction.

Rationale: Conformity to current practice.

LD 21 303.3.5 & 6 (new) page 69 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.3.5 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and motorized escorts are allowed, receiving assistance by any drafting is prohibited. Swimmers must attempt to remain 3 meters or more from other swimmers, except when rounding buoys, when overtaking other swimmers when space is not readily available, when unescorted at the start and finish of the swim, and when the swimmer’s escort craft becomes disabled as per 301.3.1 and 303.3.4. Incidental or accidental incursion into the 3-meter zone of another swimmer shall not be the basis for disqualification.

303.3.6 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and non-motorized escorts are used, the event director may choose to allow drafting or prohibit drafting in accordance with 303.3.5.

Rationale: SAFETY of all swimmers! When swimmers are tightly bunched in an open water swim, it is very challenging for individual escort craft of any kind to avoid cutting off or hitting swimmers, particularly in heavy winds, waves, or currents. This danger is even more acute when these escort craft are motorized (remember Maui!). Fortunately, in the long swims in which motorized individual escorts are most likely to be required, the prevailing swimmer ethos frowns on drafting.

LD 22 303.6.1 page 69 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.6.1 Types

A In-the-Water—The swimmer shall have finished the swim when any part of the swimmer touches a vertical surface or crosses a ~~specifically designated~~ the finish line after completion of the prescribed distance. Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer touches the vertical surface or crosses the finish line. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~

B Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and proceed to a ~~specifically designated~~ the finish line. Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer’s chest crosses the finish line. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~

Rationale 1: Housekeeping. This removes the unnecessary word “the” in the title (see also 303.6.2).

Rationale 2: Housekeeping. If proposal 302.2.5 passes, this removes the unnecessary words “specifically designated”; these words are used verbatim to define the finish line in proposed 302.2.5.

Rationale 3: Housekeeping. The sentence “Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly” describe process (not rules), and should be removed and placed in the OWGTO.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.6.1, one involving housekeeping and one involving order of finish.

LD 23	303.6.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

303.6.1 Types

A In-the-Water—The swimmer shall have finished the swim when any part of the swimmer touches a vertical surface or crosses a specifically designated the finish line after completion of the prescribed distance. If visual judging is used, Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer touches the vertical surface or crosses the finish line. If electronic chip timing is used, order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

B Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and proceed to a specifically designated the finish line. If visual judging is used, Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer’s chest crosses the finish line. If electronic chip timing is used, order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

Rationale: This clarifies the previous ambiguity about order of finish by combining previous

303.6.4B into these articles and specifying the difference between visual judging and electronic chip judging.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.6.1, one involving housekeeping and one involving order of finish.

LD 24	303.6.2	page 69	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

303.6.2 Straightaway Events—An in-the-water finish shall be used in straightaway events.

Rationale: Housekeeping (consistent wording with proposed 303.6.1A & B).

LD 25	303.6.4	page 70	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

303.6.4 Electronic Timing/Incorporating Chip Timing

~~**A Backup timing**—In open water swims in which the event director provides electronic timing/chip timing is used, an independently operating backup timing system is required.~~

~~**B Order of finish**—For both in-water and out-of-water finishes, the order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated.~~

Rationale: Reorganization and consistent language. Section B has been moved to 303.6.1A & B for clarity. Section A stands alone as 303.6.4, with the appropriate title and more consistent rules language.

LD 26	303.7.1	page 70	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

B Advertising—Products involving tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing ~~drugs~~ substances banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised, but the advertiser's name only may be used. Offenders may be barred from competition until they comply with this rule.

Rationale: This language broadens the definitions of that which is to be banned, and follows USA-Swimming and USMS rules language in 102.12.2.

LD 27	303.3.7.2A	page 70	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

303.7.2 Rules for Category I Swimwear for Open Water Events

A Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap or caps (~~which may include~~ including those made of neoprene when the water temperature is not greater than 78 degrees Fahrenheit) and goggles. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect the neck and shoulders. Nose clips, ear plugs, wristwatches and grease are also allowed.

Rationale: Safety. Heat-retaining caps may be unsafe in warm water. In addition, the term “may” allows event directors to disallow the use of neoprene caps in cold water; if swimmers need the extra warmth of a neoprene cap for safety reasons, they should be allowed to wear them. With the proposed water temperature limitations (302.2.2A), there would be no need to give the event director this discretion. This change also makes this rule consistent with proposed 303.7.3B.

LD 28	303.7.2B	page 70	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

B The ~~competitor~~ swimmer shall wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees. For women, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder nor below the knees.

Rationale: Housekeeping (preferred language).

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.7.2B, one involving housekeeping and one involving change in swimwear coverage.

LD 29	303.7.2B	page 70	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

B The competitor shall wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~For men, the swim suit shall not extend above the navel not below the knees.~~ For both men and women, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, and shall not extend past the shoulder, nor below the ~~knees~~ ankles.

Rationale: This proposal would broaden the scope of the USMS open water swimwear rule to include suits now legal in USA-Swimming and FINA competition, by updating our coverage rules to be more consistent with the USA-Swimming open water swimwear rule (701.4.4) and the FINA Bylaws that apply to open water swimwear (BL 8.4 & 8.5), both of which went into effect on June 1, 2010.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.7.2B, one involving housekeeping and one involving change in swimwear coverage.

LD 30 **303.7.2D** page 70 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a swim (such as wetsuits, webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, buoyant armbands, audio players, etc.)....

Rationale: Audio players can be used as an effective pacing device, and they constitute a questionable safety practice. Since swimmers ask this question many times each year, it is appropriate to add it to the list of illegal aids. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 35).

LD 31 **303.7.2D** page 70 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

...Medical identification items may be worn....

Rationale: Safety. This protection for swimmers seems obvious, uses identical language for both Categories of open water swimwear, and is identical with USMS rules language in 102.12.1E. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 36).

LD 32 **303.7.2D** page 70 **Pacific LMSC**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

...Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot or glove on the body or flat armband is not permitted unless approved by the referee. Any devices used to maintain body heat are not permitted, except for those listed in article 303.7.2A.

Rationale: This proposal gives local referee discretion to approve protective coverings for recent wounds, burns or incisions. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 37).

LD 33 **303.7.3B** page 71 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

B Wetsuits, neoprene caps, or any other heat-retaining swimwear may be allowed at the discretion of the event director when the water temperature is not greater than 78 degrees Fahrenheit.

Rationale: Heat-retaining caps may be unsafe in warm water. This also makes this rule consistent with proposed 303.7.2A (LD 27).

LD 34 **303.7.3C (new)** page 71 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

C Swimmer safety devices that do not interfere with other swimmers and do not aid in buoyancy is permitted.

Rationale: This proposal allows safety devices such as SafeSwimmer and SwimIT.

LD 35 **303.7.3D** page 71 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any additional device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a swim (such as webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, audio players, etc.), except in designated events where all swimmers may use similar devices or substances....

Rationale: Audio players can be used as an effective pacing device, and they constitute a questionable safety practice. Since swimmers ask this question is asked many times each year, it is appropriate to add it to the list of illegal aids. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.2D (LD 30).

LD 36 **303.7.3D** page 71 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

...Medical identification items may be worn....

Rationale: Safety. This protection for swimmers seems obvious, uses identical language for both Categories of open water swimwear, and is identical with USMS rules for pool swimming in 102.12.1E. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.3D (LD 31).

LD 37 **303.7.3D** page 71 **Pacific LMSC**

Action: Adopted Defeated Adopted/Amended Tabled Postponed Withdrawn Pulled

...Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot or glove on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

Rationale: This proposal gives local referee discretion to approve protective coverings for recent wounds, burns or incisions. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.2C (LD 32).

LD 38 **303.8.1** page 71 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.8.1 There shall be an event director, referee, and safety coordinator director, scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter and a sufficient number of judges, inspectors, timers and medical personnel to ensure a properly run open water event. The position of safety director shall not be combined with the duties of any other official or staff member.

Rationale #1: USMS needs to require three major officials for operating any open water event. Definitions for each position will be included in the OWGTO.

Rationale #2: Housekeeping (“director” is the preferred term, used in all rules, OWGTO, and sanction materials).

LD 39	303.8.2 (new)	page 71	Long Distance Committee			
--------------	----------------------	---------	--------------------------------	--	--	--

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.8.2 There shall be additional officials in numbers sufficient to operate the event in accordance with USMS open water rules and administrative regulations and may include scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter, judges, inspectors, timers, safety and medical personnel.

Rationale: Regulation of remaining officials would be too restrictive, as staffing can depend on many variables that are specific to individual events. The OWGTO will define each function that needs to be fulfilled, without specifically requiring that a separate individual fulfill each function, except as specified in proposed 303.8.1 (LD 38).

LD 40	303.8.3 (new)	page 66	Open Water & Long Distance Committees			
--------------	----------------------	---------	--------------------------------------------------	--	--	--

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

303.8.3 Independent Safety Monitor

- A An Independent Safety Monitor shall be approved by the LMSC sanctioning officer and shall be independent of the event organizing body.
- B The Independent Safety Monitor shall be present at the event to assure that the approved safety plan is implemented and that adequate safety precautions are in place for existing conditions.
- C The Independent Safety Monitor shall have the authority to revoke the sanction on the day of the swim if adequate safety precautions are not in place, and shall notify all participants of the revocation before the beginning of the swim if the event organizer proceeds with the swim.

Rationale: Currently, there is no mechanism in place to assure that USMS safety requirements are followed by event hosts at event sites. If USMS is to require safety

standards, they must be enforceable at the LMSC level. This proposal aims to rectify this omission, following the concept in USA-Swimming Rule 701.8.

Note: This amendment will require a simultaneous change to **Article 203.4 Withdrawal or Denial of Sanctions** under article 601.4.5 if accepted.

LD 41	303.8.2 & 3	page 71	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

~~303.8.2~~ The clerk of course shall ensure that all entrants in open water events are visibly marked with their entrant numbers.

~~303.8.3~~ Official craft shall be placed in a position in open water events to best observe yet not physically hinder the swimmers.

Rationale: Process (These sections will be moved to the OWGTO).

LD 42	303.9.5	page 71	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

303.9.5 Receive assistance by pulling, pushing, or resting on ~~the escort or safety~~ any craft, cables, line markers, buoys or buoy lines, or cable pilings or physical features on or near the course other than the bottom. Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.

Rationale: This broadens the definition of ‘assistance’ by including all craft and physical features on or near the course such as piers, jetties, pilings, etc. that are not included in the current rule.

LD 43	303.9.10	page 72	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

303.9.10 Swim in a manner in which ~~their~~ personal safety is jeopardized.

Rationale: Safety (this proposal would now include behavior which jeopardizes ANY swimmer’s safety as a disqualifying offense).

LD 44	303.12.1	page 72	Long Distance Committee					
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled	

303.12.1 The referee or event director shall determine if the start of a race is to be postponed or canceled, or if a race in progress is to be stopped.

Rationale: Safety. Either official should have the authority to postpone, cancel, and stop a race.

LD 45 305.3.4 page 73 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

305.3.4 Postal—A postal event is a competition in which swimmers participate at a place of their choosing and send ~~and~~ submit the time or distance achieved to a central location for tabulation.

Rationale: Improved rules language.

LD 46 305.6.8 (new) page 74 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

306.8 SPLIT TIMES

306.8.1 Split times from individual postal events may not be used for entry into a separate individual postal national championship event of a shorter distance.

306.8.2 Split times from individual postal events may not be used as part of a relay entry into a separate relay postal national championship event of a shorter distance.

Rationale #1: Organization (not appropriate for the section on Records, this section has been moved from 308.1.8 and reorganized).

Rationale #2: This proposal specifies “national championship” events, allowing flexibility for non-national championship postal events.

Renumber after.

LD 47 306.8.2 page 75 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

306.8.2 Event directors shall have the discretion to request additional verification of completion from any entrant and may request that the Long Distance Committee chair ~~to~~ refuse to accept, or disqualify, any entry that appears to contain erroneous information.

Rationale: Housekeeping (better grammar).

LD 48 306.9.1-3 page 75 Long Distance Committee

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

306.9.1 In distance-based events, the person swimming the fastest time shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers achieve the same time, a tie shall be declared.

306.9.2 In time-based events, the person swimming the farthest shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers swim the same distance, a tie shall be declared.

~~306.9.3 If two or more swimmers swim the same distance or achieve the same time, a tie shall be declared.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping. By merging 306.9.3 into the two previous articles, this proposal eliminates the ambiguity current inherent in 306.9.3.

LD 49 **307.2.1A-C** page 75 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

~~307.2.1 At the discretion of t~~ The Long Distance Committee, shall award open water national championships as may be awarded in a form determined in the best interest of USMS open water swimming, including:

A Individual championships, ~~distributed across the country.~~

B Multi-championship swim festivals.

C A combination of A and B, ~~as deemed appropriate.~~

...

Rationale: Housekeeping (clearer rules language).

LD 50 **307.2.1D (new)** page 75 **Open Water Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

D Open championships--championships that are open to all swimmers eligible to swim in USMS sanctioned events and include any standard USMS scoring division; or

Rationale: The proposal provides a dynamic and creative option for USMS to develop NC events that are tailored to the needs of the region where they take place and the open water swimmers who participate, including:

- 1. Providing additional options for the LDC and hosts to consider in creating NC events that may help develop championships and local events.*
- 2. Allowing all swimmers eligible to swim in local events to swim in NC events and realize the rewards of their swims.*
- 3. Allowing all "standard" scoring division (as defined in Article 303.1) to be used in a NCs without penalty to the swimmers or creating difficulties for the event hosts.*
- 4. Integrating the NCs with the concepts of the proposed ERDB and National Ranking system.*
- 5. Making changes without impacting USMS' insurance needs.*
- 6. Reaching out to swimmers from the greater open water world.*
- 7. Providing opportunities to recruit championship bids from events where the "open" format may be more desirable and successful.*

9. Continuing to enhance the opportunities offered by our events beyond the standard definitions to keep USMS open water modern and forward moving.
 This change would require simultaneous rules change to 301.3.1, and legislation change to 201.1.3 under the terms specified in 601.4.5 (see below). Reletter after.

301.3.1 ~~With the exception of open championships and open award systems, Participants~~ swimmers with one-event registrations shall not be eligible to compete in open water and postal national championships, nor shall they be eligible for records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards.

Rationale: See proposed change to Article 307.2.1D for definition of “open championship.” This change would require simultaneous legislation change to 201.1.3 under the terms specified in 601.4.5 [see below]

201.1.3 One-Event Registration

A Open Water One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single event registration that allows an athlete to participate in a USMS-sanctioned open water event. Membership cards shall not be issued for one event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations, ~~except that their swims shall not be eligible for USMS national open water records and recognition.~~ One event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

Rationale: Required for consistency with proposed change to 301.3.1. In addition, eligibility of one event registrants to swim in various open water competitions and earn awards is part of the rules of competition and is not relevant to defining the single event membership.

LD 51	307.2.2A-F	page 75-6	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

307.2.2 At the discretion of the Long Distance Committee, national championship events may be awarded in the following categories:

- A** One mile Sprint Distance Championship (quarter-mile straightaway or open water course)
- B** Two miles Cable Championship (quarter-mile straightaway)
- C** Open water Middle Distance Championship (greater than 1 mile and less than or equal to 3 miles)
- D** Open water Long Distance Championship (greater than 3 miles and less than 6 miles)
- E** Open water Marathon Distance Championship (greater than or equal to 6 miles and less than 9 miles)
- F** Open water Ultra Marathon Distance Championship (greater than or equal to 9 miles)

Rationale 1: This proposal now gives specific names to each of the open water swim distances for easy identification and branding purposes.

Rationale 2: Grammar (the addition of “mile(s)” in 307.2.2C & D follows parallel construction in 307.2.2C & D with the rest of 307.2.2).

LD 52	307.2.2H-I	page 76	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

H Postal 5 and 10 kilometer (each event swum separately in a 50-meter course in a pool)

I Postal 3000 and 6000 yard (each event swum separately in a 25-yard or 25-meter course in a pool)

Rationale: Housekeeping (clearer and less ambiguous rules language).

LD 53	307.3.1 (new)	page 76	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

307.3.1 Suitable bids shall comply with all applicable USMS swimming and open water and long distance rules, policies and procedures.

Rationale: Reorganization (former 307.3.4 now becomes 307.3.1). Renumber after.

LD 54	307.3.1-4	page 76-7	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

~~**307.3.12** Bids shall be due, in writing, to the Long Distance Committee chair no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting. All bids shall be submitted to the chair of the Long Distance Committee no later than July 1. If no timely suitable bid is received, the committee shall continue to solicit bids.~~

~~**307.3.23** Championships shall be awarded by the Long Distance Committee, typically at the annual meeting, one to three years prior to the championship being held. The committee may award championships one to three years in advance of the national championship event.~~

~~**307.3.3** Events not awarded at the annual meeting may be awarded by the Long Distance Committee chair.~~

~~**307.3.4** Suitable bids shall comply with all applicable USMS swimming and open water and long distance rules, policies and procedures.~~

Rationale: This proposal matches this rule with current practice, in much clearer rules language.

LD 55	307.3.5	page 77	Long Distance Committee				
--------------	----------------	---------	--------------------------------	--	--	--	--

307.3.5 A three-area award system may be followed for the bidding of open water championships. (See Appendix D for map, and description of areas and bid rotation.)

In this system, suitable bids from a qualifying area shall receive preference over bids from other areas.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BID ROTATION			
Year	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
2013	Open water >1/<=3 mile	2 mile cable Open water >	1 mile Open water >
2014	1 mile Open water >3/<=6	Open water >1/<=3 mile	2 mile cable Open water >6/<=9
2015	2 mile cable Open water >6	1 mile Open water >	Open water >1/<=3 mile

Rationale: Process (this chart should be moved to Appendix D, with “Bidding Areas for Long Distance National Championship Meets”).

307.4 CONTRACT

A representative of the ~~sponsoring~~ host organization that is the successful bidder of an open water and long distance championship event shall sign a written contract with USMS, which specifies the responsibilities of the event host and of USMS.

307.5 FINANCIAL

307.5.1 The ~~sponsoring~~ host organization shall agree to underwrite the full event expenses, including but not limited to the following:

- A Costs associated with the event (setting up the course, supplies, equipment, etc.).
- B Cost of all national championship event awards (medals and patches) and/or other appropriate awards.
- C A fee per individual entrant in the event and a performance bond shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee and paid to USMS. All or a portion of the performance bond shall be returned to the ~~sponsoring~~ host organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the event contract.

Rationale: Housekeeping (replacing “sponsor” with “host” is preferred rules language).

LD 57 **307.5C & 6** page 77-8 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

C A fee per individual entrant in the event and a performance bond shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee and paid to USMS. All or a portion of the performance bond shall be returned to the host organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the event contract.

...

307.6 ENTRY FEE

The Long Distance Committee shall determine the individual and relay entry fees ~~The entry fees for open water and postal national championships shall be approved by the Long Distance Committee.~~

Rationale: Align language with pool national championships. Also, clarify who determines the per swimmer fee and makes the LDC responsible for determining entry fees, which can be different for each event. Currently the LDC only has the authority to approve whatever the host sets.

LD 58 **307.8.1B** page 79 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

307.8.1 Individual results shall be tabulated electronically by gender and age group in order of finish. Women's results shall be shown first, followed by men's results. For each swimmer, the following information must be reported in this order:

A Age group place

B Swimmer's name (~~last name first~~, as it appears on the USMS membership card)

...

Rationale: Housekeeping (unnecessary & redundant language).

LD 59 **307.10.1-2** page 80 **Long Distance Committee**

Action: Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled
------------------------	----------	-----------------	--------	-----------	-----------	--------

307.10 AWARDS

307.10.1 National championship medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chair shall be awarded at least to the first six place winners of individual championships in each age group. In national championship events with 1000 or more entrants, individual awards shall be awarded to at least the first 10 place winners of individual championships in each age group.

307.10.2 National championship medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance

Committee chair shall be awarded to the members of at least the first three place winners of relay championships in each age group. In national championship events with 1000 or more entrants, awards shall be awarded to the members of at least the first six place winners of relay championships in each age group.

Rationale: These proposals match the current requirement for awards for the One-Hour Swim, now covered in the Postal Guidelines (not to mention the pool championships, covered in 104.5.7A), and would also apply to all other long distance championship events.

LD 60	307.12.3	page 81	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

307.12.3 ~~If a swimmer scores points in one age group and ages up to another age group~~ participates in two age groups in the course of a year, the points earned shall be ~~transferred up to the new~~ counted in the older age group. If a swimmer swims the same event in two different age groups, only the higher finish will be counted.

Rationale: This proposal assures that swimmers are counted in an age group in which they have actually competed in an All-Star qualifying swim.

LD 61	307.8.1.1	page 81	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

308.1.1 Individual national records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway swims (1-mile and 2-mile) and time/distance pool events (one-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Relay national records shall be maintained in all of these quarter-mile straightaway swims and long-distance pool events. ~~The records shall be for three person men's and women's relays and four person mixed relays.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping (if proposal 308.1.4 is accepted, the last sentence in this article would be redundant because it is included in 307.2.3A).

LD 62	308.1.4	page 81	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

308.1.4 Open water and long distance records shall only be permitted from events conducted in compliance with articles 307.2.3, 307.7.3B and 307.7.6A of the USMS rule book.

Rationale: Oddly missing previously, this proposal defines conditions under which relay records may be set. See also 308.1.1.

LD 63	308.1.7A-B	page 81	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

308.1.7 Long distance national records for postal swims may be established by using a swimmer’s split time in an individual event if:

- A** The split is swum as an initial distance within a ~~scheduled~~ sanctioned event,
- B** The swimmer completes the full distance of the ~~scheduled~~ sanctioned ~~event~~ swim without being disqualified,

Rationale 1: “Sanctioned” is clearer and more definitive rules language than “scheduled”.

Rationale 2: Housekeeping (“swim” is the approved term in this instance, and is parallel in construction to the rest of Part 3).

LD 64	308.1.8	page 81-2	Long Distance Committee				
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Tabled	Postponed	Withdrawn	Pulled

~~**308.1.8** Split times from individual postal events may not be used:~~

- ~~**A** As part of a relay entry into a separate relay postal event of a shorter distance~~
- ~~**B** For entry into a separate individual postal event of a shorter distance.~~

Rationale: Reorganization (Since this rule does not involve records, it is currently misplaced in article 308; this proposal moves it to section 306.8).

Proposed Changes to the USMS Open Water and Long Distance Swimming Rules

In accordance with section 601.1.4, the Long Distance Committee submits the following 64 proposals for consideration by the House of Delegates at the 2014 Convention.

Proposals concerning reorganization of Part 3 are LD 12, 13, 18, 19, 25, 41, 46, 53, 55, and 64.

Proposals of major substance are LD 2, 6, 7, 21, 27, 29, 40, and 50.

Proposals of some substance are LD 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 14, 16, 20, 23, 26, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 44, 51, 54, 57, 59, 60, and 62.

Housekeeping proposals are LD 1, 11, 15, 17, 22, 24, 28, 45, 47, 48, 49, 52, 58, 61, and 63.

LD 1	301.3.1&2, 301.5.1&2	pages 65-6	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

301.3.1 ~~Participants~~ Swimmers with one-event registrations shall not be eligible to compete in open water and postal national championships, nor shall they be eligible for records, All-American

status or any other USMS special awards.

301.3.2 All ~~participants~~ swimmers in national championship postal events must be currently registered members of USMS or a FINA-member national governing body on or before the day of their swim.

301.5.1 In an open water swim, the eligibility of a ~~participant~~ swimmer shall be determined by the age of the ~~participant~~ swimmer as of the last day of the event, except for 18-year-olds, who must be 18 on the day that they swim.

301.5.2 In a postal swim, the eligibility of a ~~participant~~ swimmer shall be determined by the age of the ~~participant~~ swimmer as of the day of the swim.

Rationale: Housekeeping (preferred rules language).

LD 2	302.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2 OPEN WATER SWIMS COURSES

Overall Rationale: Oddly, there is little mention of courses or course specifications in current USMS rules. This proposal remedies those omissions, and reorganizes this article for clarity. The topics and language of the proposal is taken largely from USA-Swimming Rule 702.7, but modified to be more flexible and appropriate to the variety of USMS open water events. Renumber after.

LD 3	302.2.1A (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2.1 The Course

A The event director shall determine the course and type of start and finish for open water swims, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmers.

Rationale 1: Reorganization. Proposed new 302.2.1A has been moved from old 302.2.2.

Rationale #2: Adding “finish” makes this rule more complete.

Rationale 2: Housekeeping: redundant language (the heading of 302.2 already mentions open water, and safety is specifically addressed in current 303.2).

LD 4	302.2.1B (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B The course shall be measured and marked as accurately as possible-feasible.

Rationale #1: Reorganization. Proposed new 302.2.1B has been moved from old 302.2.2.

Rationale #2: Amending the current language makes the measurement requirement more flexible (and probably less costly) for event hosts and more appropriate to local event

conditions.

LD 5	302.2.1C (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

C Hazards on the course should be eliminated or marked wherever possible.

Rationale: This proposal addresses an obvious safety issue.

LD 6	302.2.2A (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2.2A Water Conditions

A Water Temperature

- (1) A swim shall not begin if the water temperature is less than 60° F. (15.6° C.), unless heat-retaining swimwear is required of all swimmers.
- (2) A swim in which heat retaining swimwear is required of all swimmers shall not begin if the water temperature is less than 57° F. (13.9° C.).
- (3) For swims of three miles or more, the ~~A~~ swim shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 29.45° C. (85° F.).

Note: Reorganization (New 302.2.2A(3) is moved from 302.5)

Rationale: Safety. This proposal aims to reduce significantly the risks from thermal issues from swimming in water that is dangerously cold or hot for most USMS members, but allowing some flexibility for those who choose to swim in wetsuits. USMS open water swimmer population, taken as a whole, are typically not elite athletes, in general do not acclimatize, spend more time (in some cases much more time) in the water, have more health-related problems, and are much more likely to be using medications which can alter their adaptability.

LD 7	302.2.2B (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B Water Quality--If water quality meets the standards of the local testing authority, the water quality will be deemed acceptable.

Rationale: Safety. Using the standard and similar language adopted by USA-Swimming in Rule 702.3.1, modified for flexibility, this proposal aims to reduce the risks from swimming in water of unsafe quality.

LD 8	302.2.3 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
-------------	----------------------	-----------	--------------------------------	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

302.2.3 Starting Line

A The starting line shall be specifically designated and clearly defined.

B For swims starting from a platform or dock, the water depth shall be no less than 6 feet for the first 5 meters of the course. All swimmers in the pre-race safety meeting and before the start of each race/wave shall be advised of the depth of the water. Water depth markings on the starting platform or dock are recommended. The referee shall have this start area inspected for underwater hazards before the swim. The swim shall use an alternative method of starting if hazards cannot be eliminated.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 9	302.2.4 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2.4 Turns

A All turns shall be clearly indicated.

B Turns shall be directional, and passed on the right or left as stated in the pre-swim instructions

C Guide buoys may be used between turns to help swimmers navigate. These buoys shall be non-directional, and swimmers may pass these buoys on either side, except for floats on a straightaway swim course or when otherwise directed by the referee.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 10	302.2.5 & 6 (new)	page 66ff	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2.5 Finish Line

A The finish line shall be specifically designated and clearly defined.

302.2.6 Feeding Stations

A Number of feeding stations for swims without individual escorts:

(1) For swims 5-kilometers or shorter, feeding stations are optional.

(2) For swims longer than 5-kilometers but shorter than 10-kilometers, at least one feeding station is required.

(3) For swims 10-kilometers or longer, there shall be at least one feeding station every 2.5-kilometers.

B Feeding stations shall be fixed in position and shall safely accommodate the number of swimmers and feeders.

C Feeding stations shall be located on the inner or outer boundaries of the course.

D For swims requiring individual escorts, feeding stations are optional.

Rationale: See overall rationale under 302.2 (proposed LD 2).

LD 11	302.2.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.2.1 STRAIGHTAWAY SWIMS COURSES

Rationale: Housekeeping (grammar—the article refers to the course, not the swim).

LD 12	302.2.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

~~A~~—The course shall be a straight, measured distance within plus or minus 6 inches, in stationary open water and defined by a cable with floats or a continuous marking system visible to the swimmer. Floats on the course shall be a maximum of 10 meters apart.

~~B~~ ~~Course measurement~~—~~If permanent fixed and stationary markers are used, a course shall be certified once every five years. If markers are not permanent, the course shall be certified by a licensed surveyor annually before the swim takes place.~~

Rationale: Process (since this current rule describes process, this proposal moves it to the OWGTO) and Housekeeping (no need for subheadings).

LD 13	302.2.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

~~302.2.2 Other Open Water Swims~~—~~The event director shall determine the course and type of start for open water swims, keeping in mind the safety of the swimmers. The course shall be measured as accurately as possible.~~

Rationale: Reorganization. These sentences will be moved to proposed 302.2.1 and 302.2.2.

LD 14	302.3.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.3.1 Cumulative relays are comprised of groups of swimmers from the same USMS-registered club entered in the individual swim. Cumulative relay swims may be contested on a total time/distance or point system basis.

Rationale: Taken together with proposed 302.3.4, this proposal intends to define usual relay composition as being from the same club, using parallel structure with proposed 302.4.1 and current 302.4.4. This was inadvertently dropped during the 2012 rules reorganization involving this rule.

LD 15	302.3.2	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.3.2 Time or Distance Basis—A specified number of ~~contestants~~ swimmers on each relay shall be considered in the computations for ~~team~~ club scoring.

Rationale #1: Housekeeping (“swimmers” is the preferred term).

Rationale #2: Housekeeping (“club” is the correct term, as “team” in this context is not a USMS-recognized term).

LD 16	302.3.4	page 61	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.3.4 With the exception of National Championship events, the event director may allow special events in which members of an open water relay need not be from the same club.

Rationale: This proposal allows event directors the flexibility of including special relay events, parallel with current 302.4.4 for sequential relays.

LD 17	302.4.1	page 67	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

302.4.1 Relays shall consist of two or more swimmers as specified on the entry form from the same USMS-registered club. The relay members shall rotate in the same order throughout the event. The time or distance each swimmer is required to spend in the water shall be specified on the entry form. The changeover to the new swimmer shall be made within one minute after the completion of the previous swimmer’s leg. In the exchange in open water relays, physical contact must be made between the two swimmers.

Rationale: Housekeeping; this meaning is implied by current 302.4.4, but needs to be stated clearly.

LD 18	302.5	page 67	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

~~302.5 WATER CONDITIONS~~

~~For swims of three miles or more, the swim shall not begin if the water temperature exceeds 85° F.~~
Rationale: Reorganization. This article is moved to 302.2.2A.

LD 19	303	page 67	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303: Reorganize order of sub-articles:

<u>New</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>Topic</u>
303.1	303.2	Safety
303.2	301.1	Scoring Divisions
303.3	303.5	Seeding
303.4	303.7	Swimwear
303.5	303.4	Starts
303.6	303.6	Finishes
303.7	303.8	Officials
303.8	303.9	Disqualifications
303.9	303.3	Escorted Swims
303.10	303.11	Solo Open Water Swim
303.11	303.12	Incomplete Race
303.12	303.10	Swimmers with Disabilities
303.13	303.13	Protests

Rationale: Reorganization: This proposal reorders the sub-articles under article 303 in a more logical and flowing order, making the rulebook easier to read.

LD 20	303.2.1	page 68	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.2.1 Event directors shall develop and maintain a written safety plan that ~~and is available for review by the LMSC authorized representative~~ must be reviewed by the LMSC authorized representative. Safety plans shall then be included in the sanction application and must be approved by USMS before issue of the sanction.

Rationale: Conformity to current practice.

LD 21	303.3.5 & 6 (new)	page 69	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.3.5 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and motorized escorts are allowed, receiving assistance by any drafting is prohibited. Swimmers must attempt to remain 3 meters or more from other swimmers, except when rounding buoys, when overtaking other swimmers

when space is not readily available, when unescorted at the start and finish of the swim, and when the swimmer’s escort craft becomes disabled as per 301.3.1 and 303.3.4. Incidental or accidental incursion into the 3-meter zone of another swimmer shall not be the basis for disqualification.

303.3.6 In any swim in which individual escorts are required and non-motorized escorts are used, the event director may choose to allow drafting or prohibit drafting in accordance with 303.3.5.

Rationale: SAFETY of all swimmers! When swimmers are tightly bunched in an open water swim, it is very challenging for individual escort craft of any kind to avoid cutting off or hitting swimmers, particularly in heavy winds, waves, or currents. This danger is even more acute when these escort craft are motorized (remember Maui!). Fortunately, in the long swims in which motorized individual escorts are most likely to be required, the prevailing swimmer ethos frowns on drafting.

LD 22	303.6.1	page 69	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.6.1 Types

A In-the-Water—The swimmer shall have finished the swim when any part of the swimmer touches a vertical surface or crosses ~~a specifically designated~~ the finish line after completion of the prescribed distance. Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer touches the vertical surface or crosses the finish line. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~

B Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and proceed to ~~a specifically designated~~ the finish line. Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer’s chest crosses the finish line. ~~Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.~~

Rationale 1: Housekeeping. This removes the unnecessary word “the” in the title (see also 303.6.2).

Rationale 2: Housekeeping. If proposal 302.2.5 passes, this removes the unnecessary words “specifically designated”; these words are used verbatim to define the finish line in proposed 302.2.5.

Rationale 3: Housekeeping. The sentence “Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly” describe process (not rules), and should be removed and placed in the OWGTO.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.6.1, one involving housekeeping and one involving order of finish.

LD 23	303.6.1	page 66	Long Distance Committee	
--------------	----------------	---------	--------------------------------	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

303.6.1 Types

A In-the-Water—The swimmer shall have finished the swim when any part of the swimmer touches a vertical surface or crosses a specifically designated the finish line after completion of the prescribed distance. If visual judging is used, Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer touches the vertical surface or crosses the finish line. If electronic chip timing is used, order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

B Out-of-the-Water—Swimmers shall leave the water, as defined by the course, and proceed to a specifically designated the finish line. If visual judging is used, Order of finish shall be determined as the swimmer’s chest crosses the finish line. If electronic chip timing is used, order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated. Place judges and timers shall position themselves accordingly.

Rationale: This clarifies the previous ambiguity about order of finish by combining previous 303.6.4B into these articles and specifying the difference between visual judging and electronic chip judging.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.6.1, one involving housekeeping and one involving order of finish.

LD 24	303.6.2	page 69	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.6.2 Straightaway Events—An in-the-water finish shall be used in straightaway events.

Rationale: Housekeeping (consistent wording with proposed 303.6.1A & B).

LD 25	303.6.4	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

~~303.6.4 Electronic Timing/Incorporating Chip Timing~~

~~**A Backup timing**—In open water swims in which the event director provides electronic timing/chip timing is used, an independently operating backup timing system is required.~~

~~**B Order of finish**—For both in-water and out-of-water finishes, the order of finish shall be determined when the timing chip is registered by the electronic timing system or when the independent backup timing system is activated.~~

Rationale: Reorganization and consistent language. Section B has been moved to 303.6.1A & B for clarity. Section A stands alone as 303.6.4, with the appropriate title and more consistent rules language.

LD 26	303.7.1	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B Advertising—Products involving tobacco, alcohol or pharmaceuticals containing ~~drugs~~ substances banned under IOC or FINA rules may not be advertised, but the advertiser’s name only may be used. Offenders may be barred from competition until they comply with this rule.

Rationale: This language broadens the definitions of that which is to be banned, and follows USA-Swimming and USMS rules language in 102.12.2.

LD 27	303.3.7.2A	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.7.2 Rules for Category I Swimwear for Open Water Events

A Swimwear shall include only a swimsuit, cap or caps (~~which may include~~ including those made of neoprene when the water temperature is not greater than 78 degrees Fahrenheit) and goggles. Swim caps shall be defined as head gear conforming to a traditional swim cap design and shall not extend to protect the neck and shoulders. Nose clips, ear plugs, wristwatches and grease are also allowed.

Rationale: Safety. Heat-retaining caps may be unsafe in warm water. In addition, the term “may” allows event directors to disallow the use of neoprene caps in cold water; if swimmers need the extra warmth of a neoprene cap for safety reasons, they should be allowed to wear them. With the proposed water temperature limitations (302.2.2A), there would be no need to give the event director this discretion. This change also makes this rule consistent with proposed 303.7.3B.

LD 28	303.7.2B	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B The ~~competitor~~ swimmer shall wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. For men, the swimsuit shall not extend above the navel nor below the knees. For women, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder nor below the knees.

Rationale: Housekeeping (preferred language).

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.7.2B, one involving housekeeping and one involving change in swimwear coverage.

LD 29	303.7.2B	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B The competitor shall wear only one swimsuit in one or two pieces. All swimsuits shall be made from textile materials. ~~For men, the swim suit shall not extend above the navel not below the knees.~~ For both men and women, the swimsuit shall not cover the neck, and shall not extend past the shoulder, nor below the ~~knees~~ ankles.

Rationale: This proposal would broaden the scope of the USMS open water swimwear rule to include suits now legal in USA-Swimming and FINA competition, by updating our coverage rules to be more consistent with the USA-Swimming open water swimwear rule (701.4.4) and the FINA Bylaws that apply to open water swimwear (BL 8.4 & 8.5), both of which went into effect on June 1, 2010.

Note that there are two rules proposals involving 303.7.2B, one involving housekeeping and one involving change in swimwear coverage.

LD 30	303.7.2D	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a swim (such as wetsuits, webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, buoyant armbands, audio players, etc.)....

Rationale: Audio players can be used as an effective pacing device, and they constitute a questionable safety practice. Since swimmers ask this question many times each year, it is appropriate to add it to the list of illegal aids. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 35).

LD 31	303.7.2D	page 70	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

....Medical identification items may be worn....

Rationale: Safety. This protection for swimmers seems obvious, uses identical language for both Categories of open water swimwear, and is identical with USMS rules language in 102.12.1E. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 36).

LD 32	303.7.2D	page 70	Pacific LMSC	
--------------	-----------------	---------	---------------------	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

...Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot or glove on the body or flat armband is not permitted unless approved by the referee. Any devices used to maintain body heat are not permitted, except for those listed in article 303.7.2A.

Rationale: This proposal gives local referee discretion to approve protective coverings for recent wounds, burns or incisions. See parallel proposal for Category II swimwear in new 303.7.3D (LD 37).

LD 33	303.7.3B	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

B Wetsuits, neoprene caps, or any other heat-retaining swimwear may be allowed at the discretion of the event director when the water temperature is not greater than 78 degrees Fahrenheit.

Rationale: Heat-retaining caps may be unsafe in warm water. This also makes this rule consistent with proposed 303.7.2A (LD 27).

LD 34	303.7.3C (new)	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

C Swimmer safety devices that do not interfere with other swimmers and do not aid in buoyancy are permitted.

Rationale: This proposal allows safety devices such as SaferSwimmer and SwimIT.

LD 35	303.7.3D	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

D Swimmers are not permitted to wear or use any additional device or substance to help their speed, pace, buoyancy or endurance during a swim (such as webbed gloves, fins, snorkels, audio players, etc.), except in designated events where all swimmers may use similar devices or substances....

Rationale: Audio players can be used as an effective pacing device, and they constitute a questionable safety practice. Since swimmers ask this question is asked many times each year, it is appropriate to add it to the list of illegal aids. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.2D (LD 30).

LD 36	303.7.3D	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
--------------	-----------------	---------	--------------------------------	--

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

...Medical identification items may be worn....

Rationale: Safety. This protection for swimmers seems obvious, uses identical language for both Categories of open water swimwear, and is identical with USMS rules for pool swimming in 102.12.1E. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.3D (LD 31).

LD 37	303.7.3D	page 71	Pacific LMSC	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

...Any kind of tape, bandage, finger cot or glove on the body is not permitted unless approved by the referee.

Rationale: This proposal gives local referee discretion to approve protective coverings for recent wounds, burns or incisions. See parallel proposal for Category I swimwear in 303.7.2C (LD 32).

LD 38	303.8.1	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.8.1 There shall be an event director, referee, and safety coordinator ~~director, scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter and a sufficient number of judges, inspectors, timers and medical personnel to ensure a properly run open water event.~~ The position of safety director shall not be combined with the duties of any other official or staff member.

Rationale #1: USMS needs to require three major officials for operating any open water event. Definitions for each position will be included in the OWGTO.

Rationale #2: Housekeeping (“director” is the preferred term, used in all rules, OWGTO, and sanction materials).

LD 39	303.8.2 (new)	page 71	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.8.2 There shall be additional officials in numbers sufficient to operate the event in accordance with USMS open water rules and administrative regulations and may include scorer, announcer, clerk of course, starter, judges, inspectors, timers, safety and medical personnel.

Rationale: Regulation of remaining officials would be too restrictive, as staffing can depend on many variables that are specific to individual events. The OWGTO will define each function that needs to be fulfilled, without specifically requiring that a separate individual

fulfill each function, except as specified in proposed 303.8.1 (LD 38).

LD 40	303.8.3 (new)	page 66	Open Water & Long Distance Committees		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

303.8.3 Independent Safety Monitor

- A An Independent Safety Monitor shall be approved by the LMSC sanctioning officer and shall be independent of the event organizing body.
- B The Independent Safety Monitor shall be present at the event to assure that the approved safety plan is implemented and that adequate safety precautions are in place for existing conditions.
- C The Independent Safety Monitor shall have the authority to revoke the sanction on the day of the swim if adequate safety precautions are not in place, and shall notify all participants of the revocation before the beginning of the swim if the event organizer proceeds with the swim.

Rationale: Currently, there is no mechanism in place to assure that USMS safety requirements are followed by event hosts at event sites. If USMS is to require safety standards, they must be enforceable at the LMSC level. This proposal aims to rectify this omission, following the concept in USA-Swimming Rule 701.8.

*Note: This amendment will require a simultaneous change to **Article 203.4 Withdrawal or Denial of Sanctions** under article 601.4.5 if accepted.*

LD 41	303.8.2 & 3	page 71	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

~~303.8.2 The clerk of course shall ensure that all entrants in open water events are visibly marked with their entrant numbers.~~

~~303.8.3 Official craft shall be placed in a position in open water events to best observe yet not physically hinder the swimmers.~~

Rationale: Process (These sections will be moved to the OWGTO).

LD 42	303.9.5	page 71	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

303.9.5 Receive assistance by pulling, pushing, or resting on ~~the escort or safety~~ any craft, cables, line markers, buoys or buoy lines, or cable pilings or physical features on or near the course other than the bottom. Incidental contact shall not be a basis for disqualification.

Rationale: This broadens the definition of 'assistance' by including all craft and physical

features on or near the course such as piers, jetties, pilings, etc. that are not included in the current rule.

LD 43	303.9.10	page 72	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.9.10 Swim in a manner in which ~~their~~ personal safety is jeopardized.

Rationale: Safety (this proposal would now include behavior which jeopardizes ANY swimmer's safety as a disqualifying offense).

LD 44	303.12.1	page 72	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

303.12.1 The referee or event director shall determine if the start of a race is to be postponed or canceled, or if a race in progress is to be stopped.

Rationale: Safety. Either official should have the authority to postpone, cancel, and stop a race.

LD 45	305.3.4	page 73	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

305.3.4 Postal—A postal event is a competition in which swimmers participate at a place of their choosing and ~~send~~ submit the time or distance achieved to a central location for tabulation.

Rationale: Improved rules language.

LD 46	305.6.8 (new)	page 74	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

306.8 SPLIT TIMES

306.8.1 Split times from individual postal events may not be used for entry into a separate individual postal national championship event of a shorter distance.

306.8.2 Split times from individual postal events may not be used as part of a relay entry into a separate relay postal national championship event of a shorter distance.

Rationale #1: Organization (not appropriate for the section on Records, this section has been moved from 308.1.8 and reorganized).

Rationale #2: This proposal specifies “national championship” events, allowing flexibility for non-national championship postal events.

Renumber after.

LD 47	306.8.2	page 75	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

306.8.2 Event directors shall have the discretion to request additional verification of completion from any entrant and may request that the Long Distance Committee chair ~~to~~ refuse to accept, or disqualify, any entry that appears to contain erroneous information.

Rationale: Housekeeping (better grammar).

LD 48	306.9.1-3	page 75	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

306.9.1 In distance-based events, the person swimming the fastest time shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers achieve the same time, a tie shall be declared.

306.9.2 In time-based events, the person swimming the farthest shall be declared the winner. If two or more swimmers swim the same distance, a tie shall be declared.

~~**306.9.3** If two or more swimmers swim the same distance or achieve the same time, a tie shall be declared.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping. By merging 306.9.3 into the two previous articles, this proposal eliminates the ambiguity current inherent in 306.9.3.

LD 49	307.2.1A-C	page 75	Long Distance Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

~~**307.2.1** At the discretion of ~~t~~ The Long Distance Committee, shall award open water national championships as may be awarded in a form determined in the best interest of USMS open water swimming, including:~~

~~A Individual championships, distributed across the country.~~

~~B Multi-championship swim festivals.~~

~~C A combination of A and B, as deemed appropriate.~~

~~...~~

Rationale: Housekeeping (clearer rules language).

LD 50	307.2.1D (new)	page 75	Open Water Committee		
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn	

D Open championships--championships that are open to all swimmers eligible to swim in

USMS sanctioned events and include any standard USMS scoring division; or

Rationale: The proposal provides a dynamic and creative option for USMS to develop NC events that are tailored to the needs of the region where they take place and the open water swimmers who participate, including:

1. *Providing additional options for the LDC and hosts to consider in creating NC events that may help develop championships and local events.*
2. *Allowing all swimmers eligible to swim in local events to swim in NC events and realize the rewards of their swims.*
3. *Allowing all "standard" scoring division (as defined in Article 303.1) to be used in a NCs without penalty to the swimmers or creating difficulties for the event hosts.*
4. *Integrating the NCs with the concepts of the proposed ERDB and National Ranking system.*
5. *Making changes without impacting USMS' insurance needs.*
6. *Reaching out to swimmers from the greater open water world.*
7. *Providing opportunities to recruit championship bids from events where the "open" format may be more desirable and successful.*
9. *Continuing to enhance the opportunities offered by our events beyond the standard definitions to keep USMS open water modern and forward moving.*

This change would require simultaneous rules change to 301.3.1, and legislation change to 201.1.3 under the terms specified in 601.4.5 (see below). Reletter after.

301.3.1 With the exception of open championships and open award systems, Participants—swimmers with one-event registrations shall not be eligible to compete in open water and postal national championships, nor shall they be eligible for records, All-American status or any other USMS special awards.

Rationale: See proposed change to Article 307.2.1D for definition of "open championship." This change would require simultaneous legislation change to 201.1.3 under the terms specified in 601.4.5 [see below]

201.1.3 One-Event Registration

A Open Water One-Event Registration—An LMSC may offer a single event registration that allows an athlete to participate in a USMS-sanctioned open water event. Membership cards shall not be issued for one event registration. One-event registrants must be considered unattached and agree to be governed by applicable USMS open water swimming rules and administrative regulations, ~~except that their swims shall not be eligible for USMS national open water records and recognition.~~ One event registrants shall be identified as such in the meet results.

Rationale: Required for consistency with proposed change to 301.3.1. In addition, eligibility of one event registrants to swim in various open water competitions and earn awards is part of

the rules of competition and is not relevant to defining the single event membership.

LD 51	307.2.2A-F	page 75-6	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.2.2 At the discretion of the Long Distance Committee, national championship events may be awarded in the following categories:

- A** One mile Sprint Distance Championship (quarter-mile straightaway or open water course)
- B** Two miles Cable Championship (quarter-mile straightaway)
- C** Open water Middle Distance Championship (greater than 1 mile and less than or equal to 3 miles)
- D** Open water Long Distance Championship (greater than 3 miles and less than 6 miles)
- E** Open water Marathon Distance Championship (greater than or equal to 6 miles and less than 9 miles)
- F** Open water Ultra Marathon Distance Championship (greater than or equal to 9 miles)

Rationale 1: This proposal now gives specific names to each of the open water swim distances for easy identification and branding purposes.

Rationale 2: Grammar (the addition of “mile(s)” in 307.2.2C & D follows parallel construction in 307.2.2C & D with the rest of 307.2.2).

LD 52	307.2.2H-I	page 76	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

- H** Postal 5 and 10 kilometer (each event swum separately in a 50-meter course in a pool)
- I** Postal 3000 and 6000 yard (each event swum separately in a 25-yard or 25-meter course in a pool)

Rationale: Housekeeping (clearer and less ambiguous rules language).

LD 53	307.3.1 (new)	page 76	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.3.1 Suitable bids shall comply with all applicable USMS swimming and open water and long distance rules, policies and procedures.

Rationale: Reorganization (former 307.3.4 now becomes 307.3.1). Renumber after.

LD 54	307.3.1-4	page 76-7	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.3.12 ~~Bids shall be due, in writing, to the Long Distance Committee chair no later than 45 days prior to the annual meeting. All bids shall be submitted to the chair of the Long Distance Committee no later than July 1. If no timely suitable bid is received, the committee shall continue to solicit bids.~~

307.3.23 ~~Championships shall be awarded by the Long Distance Committee, typically at the annual meeting, one to three years prior to the championship being held. The committee may award championships one to three years in advance of the national championship event.~~

307.3.3 ~~Events not awarded at the annual meeting may be awarded by the Long Distance Committee chair.~~

307.3.4 ~~Suitable bids shall comply with all applicable USMS swimming and open water and long distance rules, policies and procedures.~~

Rationale: This proposal matches this rule with current practice, in much clearer rules language.

LD 55 **307.3.5** page 77 **Long Distance Committee**

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

307.3.5 A three-area award system may be followed for the bidding of open water championships. (See Appendix D for map, and description of areas and bid rotation.)

In this system, suitable bids from a qualifying area shall receive preference over bids from other areas.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP BID ROTATION			
Year	Area 1 West	Area 2 Central	Area 3 East
2013	Open water >1/<=3 mile	2 mile cable Open water >	1 mile Open water >
2014	1 mile Open water >3/<=6	Open water >1/<=3 mile	2 mile cable Open water >6/<=9
2015	2 mile cable Open water >6	1 mile Open water >	Open water > 1/<=3 mile

Rationale: Process (this chart should be moved to Appendix D, with “Bidding Areas for Long Distance National Championship Meets”).

LD 56 **307.4-5** page 77 **Long Distance Committee**

Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn
---------	---------	----------	-----------------	-----------

307.4 CONTRACT

A representative of the ~~sponsoring~~ host organization that is the successful bidder of an open water and long distance championship event shall sign a written contract with USMS, which specifies the responsibilities of the event host and of USMS.

307.5 FINANCIAL

307.5.1 The ~~sponsoring~~ host organization shall agree to underwrite the full event expenses, including but not limited to the following:

- A Costs associated with the event (setting up the course, supplies, equipment, etc.).
- B Cost of all national championship event awards (medals and patches) and/or other appropriate awards.
- C A fee per individual entrant in the event and a performance bond shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee and paid to USMS. All or a portion of the performance bond shall be returned to the ~~sponsoring~~ host organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the event contract.

Rationale: Housekeeping (replacing “sponsor” with “host” is preferred rules language).

LD 57	307.5C & 6	page 77-8	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

C A fee per individual entrant in the event and a performance bond shall be determined by the Long Distance Committee and paid to USMS. All or a portion of the performance bond shall be returned to the host organization, based upon compliance with the conditions set forth in the event contract.

...

307.6 ENTRY FEE

The Long Distance Committee shall determine the individual and relay entry fees ~~The entry fees for open water and postal national championships shall be approved by the Long Distance Committee.~~

Rationale: Align language with pool national championships. Also, clarify who determines the per swimmer fee and makes the LDC responsible for determining entry fees, which can be different for each event. Currently the LDC only has the authority to approve whatever the host sets.

LD 58	307.8.1B	page 79	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.8.1 Individual results shall be tabulated electronically by gender and age group in order of finish. Women’s results shall be shown first, followed by men’s results. For each swimmer, the following information must be reported in this order:

A Age group place

B Swimmer's name (~~last name first~~, as it appears on the USMS membership card)

...

Rationale: Housekeeping (unnecessary & redundant language).

LD 59	307.10.1-2	page 80	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.10 AWARDS

307.10.1 National championship medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chair shall be awarded at least to the first six place winners of individual championships in each age group. In national championship events with 1000 or more entrants, individual awards shall be awarded to at least the first 10 place winners of individual championships in each age group.

307.10.2 National championship medals or other appropriate awards approved by the Long Distance Committee chair shall be awarded to the members of at least the first three place winners of relay championships in each age group. In national championship events with 1000 or more entrants, awards shall be awarded to the members of at least the first six place winners of relay championships in each age group.

Rationale: These proposals match the current requirement for awards for the One-Hour Swim, now covered in the Postal Guidelines (not to mention the pool championships, covered in 104.5.7A), and would also apply to all other long distance championship events.

LD 60	307.12.3	page 81	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

307.12.3 If a swimmer ~~scores points in one age group and ages up to another age group~~ participates in two age groups in the course of a year, the points earned shall be ~~transferred up to the new~~ counted in the older age group. If a swimmer swims the same event in two different age groups, only the higher finish will be counted.

Rationale: This proposal assures that swimmers are counted in an age group in which they have actually competed in an All-Star qualifying swim.

LD 61	307.8.1.1	page 81	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

308.1.1 Individual national records will be maintained in quarter-mile straightaway swims (1-mile and

2-mile) and time/distance pool events (one-hour, 3000-yard, 6000-yard, and 5- and 10-kilometer postal). Relay national records shall be maintained in all of these quarter-mile straightaway swims and long-distance pool events. ~~The records shall be for three person men's and women's relays and four person mixed relays.~~

Rationale: Housekeeping (if proposal 308.1.4 is accepted, the last sentence in this article would be redundant because it is included in 307.2.3A).

LD 62	308.1.4	page 81	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

308.1.4 Open water and long distance records shall only be permitted from events conducted in compliance with articles 307.2.3, 307.7.3B and 307.7.6A of the USMS rule book.

Rationale: Oddly missing previously, this proposal defines conditions under which relay records may be set. See also 308.1.1.

LD 63	308.1.7A-B	page 81	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

308.1.7 Long distance national records for postal swims may be established by using a swimmer's split time in an individual event if:

- A** The split is swum as an initial distance within a ~~scheduled~~ sanctioned event,
- B** The swimmer completes the full distance of the ~~scheduled~~ sanctioned ~~event~~ swim without being disqualified,

Rationale 1: "Sanctioned" is clearer and more definitive rules language than "scheduled".

Rationale 2: Housekeeping ("swim" is the approved term in this instance, and is parallel in construction to the rest of Part 3).

LD 64	308.1.8	page 81-2	Long Distance Committee	
Action:	Adopted	Defeated	Adopted/Amended	Withdrawn

~~**308.1.8** Split times from individual postal events may not be used:~~

- ~~**A** As part of a relay entry into a separate relay postal event of a shorter distance~~
- ~~**B** For entry into a separate individual postal event of a shorter distance.~~

Rationale: Reorganization (Since this rule does not involve records, it is currently misplaced in article 308; this proposal moves it to section 306.8).

PROPOSED SUBMISSION TO THE USMS REGISTRATION AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEES

Existing language (p. 56):

201.2 Membership of Clubs. Member clubs are organizations or groups of permanent character currently registered with USMS *through its LMSCs* and that actively promote and participate in Masters Swimming.

Proposed interpretation:

The Michigan LMSC is concerned about the interpretation of the phrase "through its LMSCs." We believe that the phrase should be interpreted literally, such that club (and workout group) registration may only occur when an interested group contacts the LMSC and makes appropriate application. We do not believe that representatives of the USMS National Office should be able to create and register clubs and workout groups as recently done with Lifetime Fitness entities across the nation.

Rationale:

Like many LMSCs, Michigan actively works to develop/assist new masters swimming groups around the state, whether they choose to become a registered club (e.g., Michigan Lakeshore Aquatic Masters - new this year) or a component of the regional Michigan Masters USMS registered club. We were dismayed to learn that USMS National Office staff registered one new Lifetime Fitness Club and five additional associated workout groups. We already had a Lifetime Fitness component of the Michigan Masters club. The newly formed Lifetime Fitness club and workout groups created confusion amongst Lifetime Fitness members who don't understand the nuances of club, workout group, regional club, etc. We fully agree that organizations have the right to make their own choices about whether to become a club, workout group, or regional club. In this case the National Office simply registered the Lifetime Fitness club and workout groups without any collaboration with the LMSC or any apparent effort to understand the culture of the LMSC.

Ironically, the Rochester Hills Lifetime Fitness facility within the Michigan LMSC already had what we believe to be the most active group of masters swimmers in the nation due to efforts of Board member Patrick Weiss. That facility chose to become part of the Michigan Masters regional club a few years ago.



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

BUDGET PROCESS

1 SUMMER BOARD MEETING

Executive Director presents our organizational goals and funding priorities that support the strategic plan. The Board of Directors provides feedback that is used to generate the annual budget.

2 AUGUST

The Executive Director distributes organizational goals, funding priorities and the annual budget to the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reviews the annual budget to ensure allocation of resources is appropriate to achieving the organizational goals and funding priorities set forth by the Board.

3 SEPTEMBER ANNUAL MEETING:

Finance Committee approves the annual budget and submits to the Board. The Board approves the annual budget and submits to the House of Delegates for approval.

**The Board may approve a deficit budget and unless otherwise directed the Executive Director is required to submit a no deficit net ordinary income budget.*

***Board of Directors and Finance Committee meetings are open to members of USMS.*

U.S. Masters Swimming

Strategic Plan Update

Four decades ago, Dr. Ransom Arthur penned a document boldly stating a then radical belief that adults should swim for fitness. Much talent, time, and treasure has been invested since then to advance our belief. It hasn't been without challenges. Today, USMS stands as the only self-governed Masters Swimming organization in the world. We accept, with honor, the responsibilities that come with our position as a global leader in encouraging adults to swim.

At the 2011 USMS annual meeting, we adopted a strategic plan that supports a goal of growing to 100,000 members. The summary within these pages reminds us of our values and strategies, and shares progress of the plan while providing a look ahead.

SWIMMING FOR LIFE,



Nadine Day
President



Rob Butcher
Executive Director

Our Values

- ▶ We value **HEALTH AND FITNESS**, constantly challenging ourselves to achieve, in competition and in accomplishing our own goals.
- ▶ We value **RESPECT** for our teammates, competitors, coaches, employees, and volunteers.
- ▶ We value **FUN**, enjoying camaraderie with our fellow swimmers and embracing swimming as a joyful and satisfying avocation.
- ▶ We value **LEARNING** through coaching, programs, and communication.
- ▶ We value **EXCELLENCE** in safety, education, innovation, performance, leadership, and the provision of services and programs.

Our Strategies

- I. Enhance** the volunteer experience and improve volunteer performance through role clarity, training, recognition, and recruitment.
- II. Create and enhance** membership value through expanded and improved USMS products, services and delivery infrastructure.
- III. Increase awareness** of and strengthen the USMS brand and image in targeted markets.
- IV. Engage and activate** partnerships with organizations that align with the USMS mission, vision and values, for the purpose of increasing benefits to our members, enhancing and expanding the USMS brand, building USMS membership and improving access to swimming facilities.

Our Core Business Areas

- ☑ Membership sales and consistent membership service
- ☑ Education and certification for Masters Swimming coaches
- ☑ Education and support for existing USMS programs
- ☑ Incubation of new USMS programs
- ☑ Sanction and promotion of pool, open water, and virtual events
- ☑ Development and promotion of swimming-related content
- ☑ Sponsorship, advertising, and partnerships
- ☑ Swimming Saves Lives Foundation

USMS Milestones

- **1968** Dr. Ransom Arthur publishes Swimming and Cardiovascular Fitness in the Older Age Group
- **1970** The first Masters Nationals were held in Amarillo, Texas, with 47 swimmers
- **1973** After much lobbying, the Amateur Athletic Union sponsors a Masters Swimming Committee
- **1978** The Amateur Sports Act broke up the AAU and USMS became the only self-governed Masters Swimming national governing body in the world
- **1980** United States Aquatic Sports was formed and in 1988 USMS gained full and equal recognition, along with USA Swimming, USA Water Polo, USA Diving, and USA Synchro
- **1986** USMS registered its 20,000th member
- **1992** USMS hosted the FINA World Championships in Indianapolis
- **1996** The USMS website, usms.org, was created and has become the leading web resource for Masters Swimming
- **2001** USMS registered its 40,000th member
- **2006** USMS hosted the FINA World Championship at Stanford University
- **2008** In 2008 and 2009, USMS hired a full-time executive director, rebranded itself, introduced online registration, registered its 50,000th member, and established its National Office in Sarasota, Fla.
- **2012** USMS hosted the Marriott Summer Nationals following the USA Swimming Olympic Trials in Omaha, Neb., in the same venue.
- **2012** The Swimming Saves Lives Foundation is established functioning under the nonprofit umbrella of USMS
- **2013** USMS hosted the Pan-American Masters Championship, the first time the event has ever been hosted in the U.S.
- **2020** USMS will celebrate its 50th anniversary

TO: HOUSE OF DELEGATES

FROM: ROB BUTCHER, SUSAN KUHLMAN

DATE: SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

SUBJECT: 2015 BUSINESS PLAN IN SUPPORT OF 2015 BUDGET

From the end of 2010 to the end of 2013, USMS' unrestricted net assets (reserves) have increased by \$833,600. During each of these three years the original budget was set to break even. The increase in reserves is made up of accumulated favorable financial results and investment gains; \$453,100 and \$380,500, respectively. These better than expected results have considerably strengthened USMS' financial position.

During the summer Board of Directors meeting, the board discussed this accumulation of reserves. They reached a consensus to put a portion of these reserves to work in 2015 by accelerating the investment in programs and services originally planned for 2016 and later. As a result of this acceleration, the proposed 2015 budget is a deficit of annual revenue compared to expenses. That deficit will be covered by using a portion of the accumulated reserves.

This document outlines how and where USMS will be investing sooner than originally planned. We expect this proposed deficit budget to be a one-year modification from the five-year plan that was distributed last year. This change will produce a faster rollout of the programs and services than originally planned. We expect actual financial results in 2016 and beyond to be at or better than the forecasts shown in the five-year plan.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

- The budget reflects a 4% increase in overall 2015 membership, based on historical and forward-looking trends. USMS will end 2014 with approximately 63,200 members. The membership registration fee, as approved by the [House of Delegates](#), will increase by \$2 for 2015.
- A new 16-month membership product was introduced September 1, 2014. It consists of a four-month membership for the year 2014, plus prepayment of a full-year (12-month) membership for 2015. The intent of the 16-month membership product is to offer a membership option that captures more membership sales, in addition to the existing 4-month year-end membership.
- Significant membership services, IT, and accounting time will always be allocated to programming, accounting, service, communication, maintenance, and safeguarding of our new in-house registration system and the membership database.
- A complete rewrite and IT programming overhaul is being planned to redesign the "Places to Swim" service so it can be fed from the club and workout group registration database and thus be a better information resource for those seeking a USMS program.
- Convention administration responsibility and publishing and printing of the Rule Book have shifted to Membership Services.
- Anna Lea Matysek and Tracy Grilli have the added responsibility of providing volunteer training for LMSC registrars, sanctions chairs, Top 10 recorders, treasurers,

etc., to LMSC leadership, including the creation of tutorials and workshops and phone and email support.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

- As evidenced by our recent new-member survey, USMS publications are highly valued. Our content supports our vision of being the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness.
- Our Communications and Publications business unit produces six issues of *SWIMMER* magazine, 30 issues of *STREAMLINES*, video content, regular features to usms.org, and our social media programs. In response to our recent survey, more video content is planned for 2015. In addition, event communications surrounding our national events, including 10 pre-event email updates and the meet programs are managed and produced in-house. Our communications staff is an integral part of our public relations outreach as we expand our reach beyond the swimming space.

EDUCATION SERVICES (formerly Club and Coach Services)

- The past three years of certifying Masters Swimming coaches and site visits has revealed a need for an adult learn-to-swim (ALTS) instructor program. There are many learn-to-swim programs focused on youth; USMS will be the first to focus on adults. We'll be the only organization with an ALTS Instructor Certification Program when it's introduced in 2015. The curriculum is being developed and will be owned by USMS. We have budgeted for 12 ALTS instructor teachings in 2015.
- The budget reflects continued strong demand for our Masters Coach Certification Program with an expected 21 teachings in 2015. We project 550 coaches will attend the teaching weekends.
- Recognized Coach designation was offered for the first time in 2014. The designation enhances the professionalism of the USMS coaches and provides coach-specific benefits. 2015 is the second year of the program and participation levels are anticipated to equal 2014.
- Education Services will continue its outreach initiative by making more than 100 onsite visits to existing clubs, workout groups, and new facilities that have interest in establishing Masters Swimming programs.
- The Coaches Committee is requesting \$5,000 to support educational opportunities for coach education and development.

SWIMMING SAVES LIVES FOUNDATION

- Our Foundation has a cause that addresses a societal issue and is in direct support of our vision to be the premier resource for adult aquatic fitness, and will make fitness through swimming available for more adults.
- In 2012, SSLF funded five local partners who provided opportunities for adults to learn to swim with a hope that those adults would have the confidence and desire to continue swimming with a Masters Swimming program. In 2013, SSLF received 31 grant applications and provided funding to 11. For 2014, SSLF received 57 grant applications.

- The volume of donor gifts to SSLF has been increasing. In 2014, the National Office processed 3,235 donor acknowledgements.
- To bring visibility and awareness, as well as create a volunteer give-back opportunity for SSLF, the month of April was designated as Adult-Learn-to-Swim Month. A PR firm was hired to help us promote the message, resulting in 3,100 media stories and a return of more than \$250,000 in PR exposure. With the success of the April ALTS cause, we've budgeted the PR campaign again for 2015.
- The bulk of SSLF administration, operations, grant gathering, SSLF partner management, tracking, promotion, fundraising, and donor recognition is in the laps of our executive director, CFO and office manager. The SSLF board of trustees has requested USMS provide resources to support and manage SSLF program initiatives. A job description with shared responsibilities between Education Services and SSLF is included in the 2015 budget.

MARKETING SERVICES

- The 2015 budget reflects 19 sponsors and 21 magazine advertisers with revenue of \$502,500. In addition, we secure about \$100,000 in value-in-kind (products) used to support ongoing programs. Our marketing coordinator, Kyle Deery, and executive director are responsible for selling (this includes contract negotiation and account billing) and servicing USMS sponsors, including the marketing support provided to all our national championships. Although we can sell more sponsorship and advertising inventory, we have no human resource capacity to take on and service new sponsors and advertisers.
- This year we tested online marketing strategies to drive new membership sales. The test produced more than 400 new membership sales via a customized triathlete website page. Marketing will be expanding its outreach for the 2015 membership sales efforts with online marketing programs targeting triathletes and fitness swimmers.
- The budget reflects our continued \$25,000 marketing commitment to the SwimToday initiative being lead by USA Swimming. The goal of the industry initiative is modeled after the Got Milk? campaign, with a goal of increasing swimming participation. 2015 will be the second year of the program.
- The 2015 budget includes an additional full-time professional in marketing services so we can continue to grow our sponsorship revenue, service our sponsors, and implement online campaigns to attract new USMS members.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND INSURANCE

- We'll continue our partnership with Entertainment Sports and Insurance eXperts for risk management and insurance services. ESIX charges USMS a flat, non-commissionable annual management fee of \$53,500 to provide risk management and insurance brokerage services. New risk management programs include expanded insurance coverage, an online sanction database, a national-level event compliance review and a new waiver.
- The open water event insurance surcharge and rebate programs are reflected in the budget. The budget reflects 61 sanctioned events that include six open water national events.

NEW PARTNERSHIPS

- In 2014, we developed new partnerships with Life Time Fitness, In-Shape Health Clubs, Kroc Centers, Debbie's Swim Schools, and Sport & Health. We are providing ongoing service and education to these partners and they are providing Masters Coach certification to their coaches. Collectively, this represents more than 175 new facilities offering Masters Swimming programs.
- We'll continue our marketing and promotional support of the largest college club championships, the East Coast College Club Championships.

HUMAN RESOURCES

- The budget information includes a Comp and Benefit Metrics Summary.
- Investment in USMS information technology will increase with the addition of a new full-time programmer.
- As shared in this memo, full-time hires within Education Services and Marketing Services are included in the 2015 budget.

ADMINISTRATION & VOLUNTEER

- The president is requesting \$10,000 in funding for an LMSC Leadership conference. The purpose of the conference is to provide a face-to-face educational opportunity for our LMSC chairs.
- Legal counsel, as addressed in her annual update, is requesting \$15,000 in funding for legal services.
- A \$5,000 allocation has been inserted into the Open Water Committee to support education for OW event directors and officials. The regional educational opportunities will be in partnership with USA Swimming.
- To accommodate our new hires, we'll be securing a second office location within Sarasota, as recommended by a headquarters task force. The projected cost will be \$47,700 and is included in the budget.

CAPITAL REQUESTS

- The latest draft of Financial Operating Guidelines increases the threshold for capitalizing equipment from \$2,000 to \$5,000. In anticipation of this new guideline, all 2015 computer purchases are included in the budget as expenses under the minor software/equipment expense account.

ASSUMPTIONS

Full Time Equivalent (FTE's) by function required to carry out the organizational goals and programs outlined above.

Department	2014	New	YE 2015
Administration -	3.4		3.4
Communications/Publications -	2		2
Membership/LMSC support -	2		2
Marketing/Promotion -	1	1	2
IT support -	3	1	4
Education/C&CS/SSLF -	2	1	3
Total	13.4	3	16.4

Total 2015 compensation costs are estimated at \$1,513,000, which includes a 10% increase in health insurance, a 401K plan, and a 3% salary increase, as recommended by Compensation and Benefits.

MAJOR, NON-COMPENSATION, ASSUMPTIONS FOR UPCOMING BUDGET YEAR

Membership: 4% increase over 2014 membership of 63,200 members (includes one event members). Membership fee increase of \$2 to \$37 for 2015.

Education: 950 clubs, 425 workout groups at \$25 each, 1,050 recognized coaches, 530 coach certification participants, 120 ALTS instructor participants

Adv/sponsorship: 19 sponsors, 21 magazine advertisers for \$502K versus \$478 in 2014.

Magazine costs: Assume 4% volume increase, +3% postage, +5% printing and 2% design layouts, \$378K versus \$362K in 2014.

Insurance costs: \$360K in 2015 versus \$335K in 2014. 2015 includes \$47K for risk management fees. OW insurance costs budgeted with 61 events reimbursing USMS \$1,000 each. There is a \$10K insurance rebate budget to assist small OW events.

Education costs: \$248K versus \$216K in 2014. The budget reflects hosting 24 Masters coach certification classes and 550 attendees. In 2015 a new ALTS Instructor program will be offered. Club Services will continue their outreach initiative by making more than 100 onsite visits to existing clubs, workout groups, and new facilities. 2015 site travel budget \$39K vs. \$31K in 2014.

IT: Significant membership and IT time will be allocated to continued programming, service and maintenance of our new in-house registration system. New enhancements to be added to the registration cycle include the ability for club registration information to populate in Places to Swim and adding the 16-month membership.

Marketing

USMS logo accessories & banners, 2015 budget \$35K vs. \$38K in 2014, plus the continued \$25K "SwimToday" initiative lead by USA Swimming in 2015 and \$25K for Internet advertising.

Bridge to 2015 Budget			
2014 Forecast Net Operating Loss			\$ (14,042)
2015 Changes vs. 2014 Forecast			
Revenue Changes			
Membership Fees		173,620	
Education Services		46,620	
Events		(5,471)	
Advertising and Sponsorship		24,259	
Administration		(200)	
Investment Transfer		81,700	
Total Change in Revenues			\$ 320,528
Expense Changes			
Membership			
Payroll	258,219		
Communications & publications	23,269		
Insurance-liability	20,557		
Web operations	11,350		
All other	15,685		
Subtotal membership change		329,080	
Education Services			
Events		6,552	
Marketing			
Administration			
Office expansion	52,660		
Payroll	19,092		
Convention	11,190		
VP local operations	10,000		
All other	24,264		
Subtotal administration change		117,206	
Total Change in Expenses			\$ 498,946
Change in Net Operating Income/(Loss)			\$ (192,459)

COMP AND BENEFITS METRICS

Changes in Payroll Budget¹ from 2014 Budget to 2015 Proposed Budget:

- **Additions to FTE/Positions: Add full time Program and Services Manager in the Education Services business unit:** This additional position will provide capacity to the national office and the SSLF Board of Trustees (BoT) to execute in the immediate and long term strategies of the SSLF. In addition to SSFL responsibilities, this position would provide additional support to the newly named Education Services business unit and its expanding programs and services which include: certification programs, Masters Coach recognition program, club visits and the new Adult Learn-to-Swim Instructor Certification program.
- **Add full time Web Developer/Programmer:** This additional position responds to the demand for IT programs and services and enhancements to the in house registration system, as well as IT and web systems maintenance. USMS needs to continue adding IT programming help and support due to the reliance of our members on services delivered through IT platforms.
- **Add full time Marketing Coordinator:** The 2015 proposed budget includes an additional full time Marketing Coordinator which will allow USMS to service and grow its 40 sponsors and advertisers, and allow marketing to be proactive in generating more membership revenue from digital marketing campaigns. A test digital marketing program in 2014 proved successful in generating more than 400 first time new USMS memberships in 2014 and USMS desires to build upon this success with more digital marketing to generate more memberships. This position will provide resources to add work in these areas.

I. Merit Increases for Full Time Positions:

Salary increases are budgeted in a merit pool for all full time positions. 'Merit' increases are awarded by the Executive Director based on merit according to the policy adopted by the BOD. The merit pool in the 2015 proposed budget is 3% of all salaries. The merit pool reflects the Comp and Benefits committee recommendation based on their experience reviewing comparable job markets. The rate is the same rate as in the 2014 budget. Individual merit increase percentages will vary based on individual performance.

¹ All budget explanations exclude those associated with the Executive Director as his multiyear contract is managed by the Board of Directors outside of the Comp and Benefits Committee work. His compensation is included with the budgeted totals, however.

II. Bonus pool:

The proposed 2015 budget includes the same rate for the bonus pool for full time/exempt employees as in the 2014 Adopted Budget. The employee bonus program allows eligible employees to earn a percentage of the budgeted salary. Bonus awards are *one time only* and based on corporate goals and employee goals. Bonus do not add to base salary. Part time and hourly employees are not eligible for bonuses.

III. Health Benefits Costs:

USMS receives estimates for 2015 benefits changes from SOI, our benefits provider. They have estimated rate changes to add 10% to health care and other benefits costs. The benefits budget also includes the full year of benefits for employees in the 2014 budget not eligible for a full year of benefits.

IV. Position Reviews/Promotional Budget:

Previously, at the request of the ED, Comp and Benefits conducted salary reviews on a variety of positions during the budget process, often resulting from minor changes in responsibilities or job scope. As our organization has matured and grown, Comp and Benefits has developed a new approach to address these changes in staffing needs. The committee has drafted pay administration guidelines and pay structures that, when used in conjunction with the budget, will allow the ED to effectively manage the overall compensation budget without Comp and Benefits needing to review every change in pay. As part of this new process, Comp and Benefits is recommending a small discretionary budget of approximately 1.7% of payroll that the ED can use to address compensation issues as they arise throughout the year.

The committee will, with this new approach, be able to focus its resources on reviewing the benchmark salaries for USMS jobs annually or bi-annually, realigning salary ranges as shown by the market research rather than focusing on small changes in position duties.

The Executive Director and Comp and Benefits Committee have found that the National Office responsibilities are in a constant state of growth and flux and that recruiting challenges arise frequently. For this reason, the Comp and Benefits Committee has recommended that the Executive Director may use the discretionary budget to adjust base compensation during 2015 to reflect these needed compensation adjustments.

United States Masters Swimming
2015 Draft Budget 9/8/2014

				PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED		
INCOME STATEMENT			Members	Fee	BUDGET 2015	FORECAST 2014	BUDGET 2014	ACTUAL 2013*
<u>REVENUE</u>								
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES:								
4010	Fees - Individuals @ \$37	AL MATYSEK	60,683	\$ 37.00	2,245,271	2,042,233	2,042,233	1,878,690
4011	Fees - @ \$25 partial year	AL MATYSEK	2,446	\$ 25.00	61,150	84,975	84,975	59,520
4012	Fees - @ \$15-year plus	AL MATYSEK	500	\$ 15.00	7,500	-	-	-
4013	Vanity ID	AL MATYSEK			7,500	20,000	-	-
4050	Transfers	AL MATYSEK			-	650	650	682
4070	Rule Book Sales	DEERY			2,300	2,440	2,300	2,460
4074	Magazine Subscriptions	GRILLI			4,090	3,894	3,460	3,866
4215	Promotional Sales & 4271 Video Rental	DEERY			3,500	3,500	3,500	6,152
	Membership Services Revenue				2,331,311	2,157,692	2,137,118	1,951,370
EDUCATION SERVICES								
4020	Fees - Clubs @ \$25	BRENNER	950	\$ 25.00	23,750	23,675	21,000	25,260
4025	Fees - Work out groups @ \$25	BRENNER	425	\$ 25.00	10,625	10,100	10,000	-
4030	Coach Certifications	BRENNER			104,000	106,100	84,750	92,152
4035	Fees - Coach Recognition	BRENNER	1,050	\$ 30.00	31,500	31,380	18,000	-
4036	Fees - ALTS Instruction	BRENNER			36,000	-	-	-
4037	Fees - Club collections	AL MATYSEK			12,000	-	-	-
	Education Services Revenue				217,875	171,255	133,750	117,412
EVENTS:								
4060	Fees - One-Event @ \$15.00	GRILLI	2,100	\$ 15.00	31,500	24,000	24,000	21,216
4150	Championship Meet Surcharges	RODDIN			41,800	51,388	48,400	51,300
4151	LD Championship Surcharges	LIVONI			5,700	5,400	5,400	6,898
4155	Championship Patches	RODDIN			900	888	900	884
4157	LD Championship Medals	LIVONI			3,000	3,000	3,000	2,903
4210	Top Ten Subscriptions	GRILLI			500	500	500	585
4250	All American Patches/Cert.	GRILLI			1,025	1,025	900	1,058
4251	LD All American	GRILLI			300	300	300	175
4252	Relay All American Awards	GRILLI			700	700	700	1,018
4390	Pan American	BUTCHER			-	-	-	64,549
4450	Merchant Account Fee Income	KUHLMAN			11,868	15,562	12,240	14,536
	Events Revenue				97,293	102,763	96,340	165,121
ADVERTISING AND SPONSORSHIP								
4075	SWIMMER Magazine Advertising	DEERY			39,993	38,194	38,120	38,087
4161	Sponsor Royalty Income	DEERY			4,500	4,540	14,700	11,476
4171	Sponsorship	DEERY			458,000	435,500	441,000	441,518
	Advertising and Sponsorship Revenue				502,493	478,234	493,820	491,081
CONTRIBUTION REVENUE								
4705	Contributions	N/A			-	-	-	20
	In-Kind (legal)							
4800	Contributions- Releases from Restrictions				11,000	11,200	10,000	-
	Contribution Revenue				11,000	11,200	10,000	20
ADMINISTRATION:								
	Other Income						-	-
4500	Investment Spending Transfer	DAVIS			81,700	-	66,500	-
	Administration Revenue				81,700	-	66,500	-
	Total Revenue				3,241,672	2,921,143	2,937,528	2,725,003

United States Masters Swimming

2015 Draft Budget 9/8/2014

				PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT				BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
		Members	Fee	2015	2014	2014	2013*
MEMBERSHIP SERVICES							
5010	Liability Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		364,900	344,134	340,727	348,739
5010	Liability Insurance Surcharge	KUHLMAN/ESIX		(61,000)	(55,000)	(61,000)	(53,000)
5010	Liability Insurance Surcharge Rebate	COPELAND		10,000	5,400	10,000	4,850
5012	Accident Insurance @ \$.40	KUHLMAN/ESIX		25,004	23,813	25,273	23,346
5102	Membership Administration	GRILLI/AL MATYSEK		12,160	10,064	9,650	7,295
5103	Registration Expenses	AL MATYSEK		83,958	74,130	69,867	114,194
5320	Fitness Committee	ANZIANO		200	200	200	-
5420	Registration Committee	LETENDRE		100	100	100	-
5430	Rule Book Coordinator	EHRINGER		20	20	20	-
5470	Zone Activity costs	STEVENSON		3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
5540	History & Archives Committee	WILSON		1,250	1,750	1,750	169
5550	Recognition & Awards Committee	NOVITSKE		960	960	960	3,417
5560	LMSC Development	BUEHLER		4,850	1,950	4,050	3,241
5685	Web Operations	J MATYSEK		31,650	20,300	28,033	14,536
5701	USMS SWIMMER Magazine Production	HAMEL		378,544	362,335	379,881	316,017
5703	STREAMLINES/Web Content	HAMEL		23,700	20,240	19,840	37,651
5704	Multi-media Production	HAMEL		14,400	10,800	-	-
5840	ISHOF Contributions			21,414	21,414	21,414	20,674
5860	Rule Book Costs	GRILLI		10,400	9,039	10,316	8,676
5900	Membership Services Payroll	BUTCHER/KUHLMAN		1,141,077	882,858	882,858	686,385
	Membership Expense			2,066,587	1,737,507	1,746,939	1,539,190
EDUCATION SERVICES							
5280	Coaches Committee	BAY		28,450	22,850	22,850	11,354
5290	Coaches Certification	BRENNER		101,280	106,084	90,350	75,948
5600	Adult Learn to Swim	BRENNER		32,140	6,000	-	-
5770	Coach/Club Development Admin	BRENNER		87,921	81,420	103,735	96,900
	Education Services Expense			249,791	216,354	216,935	184,203
EVENTS:							
5205	Spring Nationals	BUTCHER		14,100	13,518	24,525	20,171
5200	Summer Nationals	BUTCHER		14,355	15,663	25,525	21,871
5121	All American Patches/Cert.	GRILLI		2,500	2,000	2,500	367
5270	Championship Committee	RODDIN		7,668	7,218	7,200	5,261
5285	LC/SC Merchant Account Fees	KUHLMAN		8,669	11,067	10,272	14,102
5370	LD Committee	LIVONI		9,665	10,065	10,065	7,269
5380	Open Water Committee	HAZLEWOOD		5,380	365	255	6,462
5390	Officials Committee	SALTZMAN		10,100	6,100	6,100	4,499
5410	Records & Tabulation Committee	SEIDLER		1,225	1,225	1,225	532
5440	Rules Committee	CASEY		1,350	1,325	1,850	1,048
5460	Sports Medicine and Science Committee	MOORE, J.		3,250	3,165	2,250	-
5240	Coordinator Contractors	BUTCHER/KUHLMAN		13,600	13,600	13,600	-
5790	Pan American Championship	BUTCHER/KUHLMAN		-	-	-	16,428
	Events Expense			91,863	85,311	105,368	98,010
MARKETING/SPONSORSHIP							
5710	Sponsor costs	DEERY		39,550	35,010	35,700	33,269
5720	USA Swimming Industry Initiative	DEERY		25,000	25,000	25,000	-
5730	Marketing Services	DEERY		100,525	92,394	82,050	52,154
	Advertising and Sponsorship Expense			165,075	152,404	142,750	85,423

United States Masters Swimming

2015 Draft Budget 9/8/2014

				PRE-CONVENTION		APPROVED	
INCOME STATEMENT				BUDGET	FORECAST	BUDGET	ACTUAL
		Members	Fee	2015	2014	2014	2013*
ADMINISTRATION:							
5013	Directors & Officers Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		9,330	6,156	4,750	4,800
5014	Bonding	KUHLMAN/ESIX		7,065	6,425	6,750	6,378
5015	Flood Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		1,925	1,681	1,500	1,499
5016	Media Professional Liability Insurance	KUHLMAN/ESIX		2,750	2,505	3,000	2,505
5050	President	DAY		14,800	12,500	12,500	8,909
5061	VP - Programs	DIEHL			-	-	-
5062	VP - Community Services	SMITH		60	60	60	-
5063	VP - Administration	TSUZUKI		-	-	-	-
5064	VP - Local Operations	STEVENSON		10,100	100	100	-
5070	Secretary	COLBURN		100	100	100	-
5080	Treasurer	DODSON		600	400	500	-
5090	Past President	MOXIE		-	-	-	-
5095	Legal Counsel	MILLER, P.		1,250	985	1,250	1,027
5099	Board/Executive Committee	DAY		49,150	46,338	47,310	43,226
5130	USMS Headquarters Admin.	KUHLMAN		164,993	109,772	100,866	88,000
5135	USMS Headquarters Payroll	BUTCHER/KUHLMAN		369,553	350,461	353,211	341,591
5300	Convention	GRILLI		93,650	82,460	91,890	88,290
5310	Finance Committee	ENSIGN		150	1,000	150	-
5315	Investment Committee	DAVIS		1,000	-	1,000	-
5330	Audit Committee	DILWORTH		4,800	4,103	4,000	2,688
5340	Compensation & Benefits	COATES		-	-	3,625	-
5630	FINA Representative	GOLDSTEIN		-	-	500	-
5640	International Delegate / UANA	MILLER/GOLDSTEIN		5,000	5,000	5,000	3,442
5660	USA Swimming Liaison	MILLER, P.		3,100	3,100	3,100	1,947
5670	ISHOF Liaison	REID		1,900	2,100	1,800	1,596
5830	Outside Legal Expense	BUTCHER/P. MILLER		15,000	7,500	7,500	892
5847	SSL Fund Operating Costs	BUTCHER		44,775	40,697	22,226	10,812
5870	Depreciation	KUHLMAN		36,000	37,067	37,067	39,117
6010	Banking Fees	KUHLMAN		3,600	3,600	2,400	3,571
5873	Audit/Accounting Fees	KUHLMAN		20,165	19,500	19,500	18,310
	Administration Expense			860,816	743,610	731,655	668,601
	Total Expense			3,434,131	2,935,185	2,943,646	2,575,427
	NET OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)			(192,459)	(14,042)	(6,118)	149,576
OTHER INCOME / EXPENSE:							
OTHER INCOME:							
4900	Interest & Dividends	DAVIS		109,700	92,500	92,500	263,440
4940	Gain (loss)-Disposal of Fixed Assets	N/A					500.03
	Other Income			109,700	92,500	92,500	263,940
OTHER EXPENSES & TRANSFERS:							
	Transfer from Investment Account			81,700	-	66,500	
	Amortization-Registration system			35,148	35,148		
6011	Investment Advisory Fees	DAVIS		6,650	6,300	5,700	4,717
	Other Expenses & Transfers			123,498	41,448	72,200	4,717
	Total Net Other Income			(13,798)	51,052	20,300	259,223
	NET INCOME			(206,257)	37,010	14,182	408,799

*The 2013 Final Actual was for operating funds only. Activity from the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation and the Legacy Fund were not included.



CHECK-IN AND CERTIFICATION PROCEDURE AT USMS CONVENTION

Each delegate must complete the two-step process outlined below. You must have a “certified ID” to vote as a member of the House of Delegates (HOD) and be eligible to attend HOD meetings!

- 1) **CHECK IN AT THE UNITED STATES AQUATIC SPORTS (USAS) STATION** to pick up your ID - a badge with your name & LMSC on it. You will also receive a convention bag, binder, and miscellaneous souvenirs.

AND

- 2) **CHECK IN AT THE USMS TABLE** to obtain “certification” that you are a USMS delegate. This is the process that verifies a delegate’s eligibility to vote in the House of Delegates (HOD). You will also receive your voting cards and other important convention material and information.

The USMS Certification/Information table will be open as follows:

- Wednesday, September 17th, from 8:00am – 5:00pm – Exhibitor Area
- Thursday, September 18th, from 7:00am -7:30am – Exhibitor Area
- Thursday, September 18th, from 7:30am – 10:00am – Conference Center A (Outside of the entrance)

The USMS Certification/Information table will move to outside the HOD meeting room on Thursday September 18th at 7:30 am (Conference Center A). All subsequent certification by USMS will take place here during HOD meetings, until they recess. (Refer to the meeting schedule in your pre-convention packet and/or binder for time and location). Late arrivals **must** locate Debbie Cavanaugh (Certification Chair) to receive their certification and voting cards.

Please note: If you did not register for convention in advance, you will need to have USMS Convention Coordinator Tracy Grilli sign a certification release before you can proceed to Debbie Cavanaugh for the balance of certification material.

New Delegates will receive a special ID identifying them as NEW DELEGATES as well as information regarding the New Delegate Orientation.



Standing Rules of the USMS Annual Meeting of 2014

- Rule 1 The Secretary, directly after the opening ceremonies of the first business meeting, shall report the number of delegates and others registered as present with proper credentials, and shall make a supplementary report after the opening of each session that business continues.
- Rule 2 A member of USMS, may, upon proper clearance by the Secretary, be transferred to delegate status, at any time during the continuance of business meetings.
- Rule 3 For admission to the floor of the House, to facilitate identification and seating, a member shall be required to wear the badge issued by United States Aquatic Sports and a sticker from the Convention Coordinator.
- Rule 4 In the report from a Committee, all Action Items shall be placed on the floor of the House without a motion or second. The House may consider the action items of a committee as one motion, or individual motions.
- Rule 5 No member shall speak in debate more than once on the same question, on the same day, or longer than three minutes, without permission of the convention granted by two thirds vote without debate.
- Rule 6 Motions shall be made from the microphones only.
- Rule 7 If a motion to call for the question is made and accepted by 2/3 of the House, any member in line at a microphone shall be recognized to speak for their allotted time.
- Rule 8 All motions, in the House or Committees, shall be recorded, in writing or electronically, with the name of the maker.
- Rule 9 Elections shall be run by the written policies of the Election Committee.
- Rule 10 Rules contained in the current edition of the Robert's Rules of Order shall govern the House of Delegates and its Committees, in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the bylaws of U. S. Masters Swimming and these standing rules.



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

USMS Leadership and Staff
An abridged directory

Board of Directors

President Nadine Day		VP Administration Ed Tsuzuki		VP Local Operations Chris Stevenson		VP Community Services Jody Smith	
VP Programs Chris McGiffin		Secretary Chris Colburn		Treasurer Phil Dodson		Immediate Past President Jeff Moxie	
At-Large Director Breadbasket Bruce Hopson		At-Large Director Colonies David Diehl		At-Large Director Dixie Maria Elias-Williams		At-Large Director Great Lakes CJ Rushman	
At-Large Director Northwest Hugh Moore		At-Large Director Oceana Jim Clemmons		At-Large Director South Central Jill Gellatly		At-Large Director Southwest Phil Whitten	









Other Board members (non-voting):

Past President Tom Boak		Past President Rob Copeland		Past President Mel Goldstein		Past President Dan Gruender	
Past President Ted Haartz		Past President Mike Laux		Past President Dr. Jim Miller		Past President Nancy Ridout	
Executive Director Rob Butcher		Legal Counsel Patty Miller		USA Swimming Representative Jeff Gudman			



U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Zone Chairs

Breadbasket Lori Payne		Colonies Jeff Strahota		Dixie Matt Hooper		Great Lakes Dan Cox	
Northwest Tim Waud		Oceana Michael Moore		South Central Tyler Blessing		Southwest Mary Hull	

Committee Chairs

Audit Elyce Dilworth		Championship Jeff Roddin		Coaches Scott Bay		Comp. and Benefits Ed Coates	
Finance Jeanne Ensign		Fitness Education Marcia Anziano		Governance Hugh Moore		History & Archives Meegan Wilson	
Investment Ralph Davis		Legislation Meg Smath		LMSC Development Paige Buehler		Long Distance Donn Livoni	
Officials Ed Saltzman		Open Water Lynn Hazlewood		Policy Bruce Hopson		Recognition & Awards Ray Novitske	
Records & Tabulation Jeanne Seidler		Registration Leo Letendre		Rules Kathy Casey		Sports Medicine & Science Jane Moore	













U.S. MASTERS SWIMMING

Appointments and Liaisons

<p>FINA Masters Technical Vice-Chair and UANA Masters Chair Mel Goldstein</p> 	<p>FINA Sports Medicine Committee and UANA Masters Committee Dr. Jim Miller</p> 	<p>ISHOF Liaison Walt Reid</p> 	<p>National Board of Review Chair Barbara Delanois</p> 
<p>US Aquatic Sports Representative Nadine Day</p> 	<p>US Aquatic Sports Treasurer Tom Boak</p> 	<p>USMS Liaison to IGLA Bruce Hopson</p> 	<p>USMS Liaison to USA Swimming Patty Miller</p> 
<p>Swimming Saves Lives Committee Chair Brandon Franklin</p> 	<p>Rule Book Editor Susan Ehringer</p> 	<p>National Senior Games Liaison & Parliamentarian William Tingley</p> 	

USMS National Office staff

<p>Executive Director Rob Butcher</p> 	<p>Chief Financial Officer Susan Kuhlman</p> 	<p>Communications and Publications Director Laura Hamel</p> 	<p>Membership Director Anna Lea Matysek</p> 
<p>IT Director Jim Matysek</p> 	<p>Club and Coach Services Director Bill Brenner</p> 	<p>Marketing Coordinator Kyle Deery</p> 	<p>Member Services Manager (and Convention Coordinator) Tracy Grilli</p> 
<p>Web Developer Jeff Perout</p> 	<p>Programs and Services Manager Marianne Groenings</p> 	<p>Associate Editor Elaine Howley</p> 	<p>Office Manager Claudia Woods</p> 
<p>Open Water Compliance Coordinator Bill Roach</p> 	<p>Club and Coach Services Mel Goldstein</p> 		



Robert's Rules of Order – the Basics

The purpose of "Robert's Rules of Order" includes the following:

- Ensure majority rule
- Protect the rights of the minority, the absentees and individual members
- Provide order, fairness and decorum
- Facilitate the transaction of business and expedite meetings

Basic Principles

- All members have equal rights, privileges and obligations
- Full and free discussion of every motion is a basic right
- Only one question at a time may be considered, and only one person may have the floor at any one time
- Members have a right to know what the immediately pending question is and to have it restated before a vote is taken
- No person can speak until recognized by the chair
- Personal remarks are always out of order
- A majority decides a question except when basic rights of members are involved
- A two-thirds vote is required for any motion that deprives a member of rights in any way (e.g., cutting off debate)
- Silence gives consent. Those who do not vote allow the decision to be made by those who do vote
- The chair should always remain impartial

Role of the Presiding Officer

- Remain impartial during debate - the presiding officer must relinquish the chair in order to debate the merits of a motion
- Vote only to create or break a tie (or 2/3 for matters requiring a 2/3 vote) - exception: the presiding officer may vote on any vote by ballot
- Introduce business in proper order
- Recognize speakers
- Determine if a motion is in order
- Keep discussion germane to the pending motion
- Maintain order
- Put motions to a vote and announce results

General Procedure for Handling a Motion

- A member must obtain the floor by being recognized by the chair
- Member makes a main motion
- A motion must be seconded by another member before it can be considered
- If the motion is in order, the chair will restate the motion and open debate (if the motion is debatable)
- The maker of a motion has the right to speak first in debate
- The main motion is debated along with any Subsidiary motions (e.g. "I move to amend the motion by ...", Privileged motions (e.g. "I move to postpone the motion to ...") and

Incidental motions (e.g. "I move to divide the question.")

- Debate on Subsidiary, Privileged and Incidental motions (if debatable) takes precedence over debate on the main motion and must be decided before debate on the main motion can continue.
- Debate is closed when:
 - Discussion has ended, or
 - A two-thirds vote closes debate ("Call the question")
- The chair restates the motion, and if necessary clarifies the consequences of affirmative and negative votes
- The chair calls for a vote by asking "All in favor?" Those in favor say "Aye" (or in HOD, hold up the Green "Yes" card). Then asking "All opposed?" Those opposed will say "No" (or in HOD, hold up the Red "No" card). And finally asking "All abstained?" Those abstaining will say "Aye" (or in HOD, hold up the White "Abstain" card)
- The chair announces the result

General Rules of Debate

- No members may speak until recognized by the chair
- All discussion must be relevant to the immediately pending question
- No member can speak more than once to each motion
- No member can speak more than three minutes
- All remarks must be addressed to the chair - no cross debate is permitted
- It is not permissible to speak against one's own motion (but one can vote against one's own motion)
- Debate must address issues not personalities - no one is permitted to make personal attacks or question the motives of other speakers
- The presiding officer must relinquish the chair in order to participate in debate and cannot reassume the chair until the pending main question is disposed of
- When possible, the chair should let the floor alternate between those speaking in support and those speaking in opposition to the motion
- Members may not disrupt the assembly
- Rules of debate can be changed by a two-thirds vote

Robert's Rules Help Get Things Done!

- **Make Motions** - that are in order
- **Obtain the Floor** - properly
- **Speak** - clearly and concisely
- **Obey** - the rules of debate
- And most of all, be courteous! That's **always** in order!

Recommended Books

Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, Tenth Edition, 2000
Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised, In Brief, Thomas J. Balch, 2004
Robert's Rules for Dummies, C. Alan Jennings, 2004
A-B-C's of Parliamentary Procedure. Co., Channing L. Bete, 1998

Recommended Web Sites

www.robertsrules.com | www.rulesonline.com | www.parlipro.org | www.robertsrules.org | www.roberts-rules.com