

2021 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Virtual

Committee Name: Coaches Committee		Session #:	
Committee Chair:	Kenny Brisbin	Vice Chair:	Chris McPherson
Minutes recorded by:	Molly Hoover	Date/time of meeting:	8/9/2021 5:00pm EST

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

1. None

Motions Passed:

1. None

Number of committee members present: 14	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 7
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): Kenny Brisbin (Chair), Bill Brenner, Chris Campbell (VP), Steve Hall, Michael Hamm, Terry Heggy, Molly Hoover, Laurie Hug, Susan Ingraham, Bob Jennings, Wilson Josephson, Carol Nip, Elise Shank, Trey Taylor		
Committee Members Absent: Chris McPherson, Scott Bay		
Other delegates present: Aaron Schneider, Diana Triana, Michael Moore, Frank Thompson, Donita Flecker, Crystie McGrail, Virgil Chancy		

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 EST

Welcome all committee members and guests!

Web Workouts - Molly Hoover – We are nearing the end of the two year cycle for current workout writers. In September, the sub-committee will begin the application process for new coaches to take over starting in January 2022. The current group has done a fantastic job of figuring out the new format and adapting to the changes that have been implemented in the last two years.

Worlds Coaching - Bob Jennings - Tim Waud was all set to be Team Manager of the PanAm games in Columbia, but then they were cancelled. Currently, USMS and the Coaches Committee are working on parameters for future international meets and Team Manager needs.

National Coaches Clinic - Trey Taylor - NCC has been in a perpetual holding pattern due to Covid. There was a great line up ready for 2020 but it was shut down. The committee is working ahead to 2022 and looking for a fairly central and easy to get to location. They are looking for great speakers and putting together a fun weekend of getting coaches together and talking about swimming!

Awards - Bob Jennings – The awards sub committee selected recipients from all nominations for the Kerry O’Brien award and the Coach of the Year award.

Kerry O’Brien award winners were: Kiley Ames, Donita Flecker, Andy Seibt, Paul Landes, Celia Wolff. Congratulations to all! There were 3 applications for Coach of the Year. The sub-committee ranked each individual from 1-5 in each category described in the application. Based on these results, the sub-committee came to a unanimous agreement on the winner. The Coach of the Year will be announced at the upcoming convention.

Education - Bill Brenner/Chris McPherson – In person coach’s education came to a stop when covid hit, so the task force then developed an online platform for level 1. It was launched in March of 2021. This program has had 123 people register and complete the online portion, and 75 have also completed the mandatory zoom call. The next call is in 2 weeks with 20 people registered. There is a budget to offer 2 level 2’s and 2 level 3’s in the near future. They are looking for potential space, especially with Covid resurging.

Level 4 Applications - Scott Bay – It was suggested that we need a deadline provided in the application when the committee will respond to applicants so they will know their status. That date should also be considerate of when award nominations are due, so that if the applicant were nominated for an award, the Level 4 status could be included.

LMSC Communication - Molly Hoover – Emails go out to each Coaches Chair each month with any important information for them to share with the coaches in their LMSC. There is still not a universal way for the Chair to find contact info for all coaches within their LMSC, which seems to be the biggest hurdle in this communication process.

Mentoring - Chris McPherson - (Bill) – The mentoring program began in 2019. The task force selected mentor and mentee coaches and had a great year getting the program going. Covid shut it down for 2020. Now the task force is getting the program going again. They currently have 6 mentor coaches and 5 mentee coaches that have applied. The task force hopes to have them selected, notified and paired up in the next 30 days.

Going forward, is there going to be opportunities for coaches who were affected by the pandemic? This will be evaluated for 2022, where they will possibly make some adjustments to criteria based on information like that.

On Deck Coaching - Elise Shank – Spring Nationals went smoothly. Almost all of the coaching slots were filled. Looking forward to doing the same thing in a couple months at Long Course Nationals. Swimmers who attended were very thankful for the help.

Open Water - Elise Shank – The open water committee will be absorbed into long distance committee in the future.

Susan is working on Open Water National events, and the long distance committee been very supportive in trying to get events set up. The National Office has been not as helpful as information was posted late and not included in the last email.

Publications - Terry Heggy – Terry would like to encourage coaches to share ideas through publications, whether on the website and/or in Swimmer Magazine. He is happy to help anyone with an idea turn it into a publishable format and get it to Daniel to get it published. Think about what contributions you may have that would be good to share and let him know!

The November/December issue will have Kenny Brisbin as the featured coach! 😊

Peer to Peer Calls - Trey Taylor - Started out the year with not a lot of lead time before the calls, so they took a month and got into a better rhythm. There have been some adjustments as some content issues came up, but we have a call coming up in August, and a final peer to peer in November. They have all gone well with good feedback. The August call will be titled “Water is the Great Equalizer”.

Sport Medicine - Terry Heggy – Having a liaison to the Sports Med Committee is to have coach’s info on what kind of things they would be interested in and passing that back and forth and onto the rest of the coaches. If you have any particular questions that you would like them to have research pass that on so he can get that to the committee.

They are a wealth of knowledge from cardio issues to physical therapy to nutrition. What is it you would like to see?

Diversity - Wilson Josephson – Wilson is the liaison bridging the work the two committees are doing. It has been a year of building up steam and planning things.

ALTS - Michael Hamm – The program is still going strong. On a peer to peer call, they came up with an apparatus to get people in the water and support them without touching them to help keep the program going throughout the Pandemic.

ALTS has a big database. The committee is going through to see who has taken the courses, who needs help, and mentoring coaches that need it. There will be 4 in-person classes coming up: Oct 3 in Davis, CA., Oct 17 in Louisville, Nov 14 in Boston, November 20 in Minneapolis.

Do we have a percentage that actually go on to join USMS?

That is what the cross references are trying to do, so they are working on it. Originally the program was just designed to teach people to swim, but they are now working to get some of these people to continue on with a club.

Fitness - Kenny Brisbin – He was unable to attend the last fitness meeting. There have been a lot of discussions on helping clubs with Try Masters Swimming. They are also reviewing submissions for the fitness award and how that is handled. They are working on pairing with organizations such as Swim Across America.

Old Business - LMSC Coaches Chair Description. This will hopefully be up in a few weeks (it has been overlooked).

New Business - Kenny had a meeting with Peter and Dawson, and they would like our committee to have some round robin discussions with LMSC coaches chairs as well as some coaches from that LMSC. They would like a discussion on what they want to see from the coaches committee, what we are doing well, not doing well, and what they would like to see more of. How do we get hold of the coaches better?

They are planning to set up calls for next year.

It was suggested to include the general chair as well in the information when those are set up, as they can help distribute the info as well.

Open Floor:

Susan - Sorry that there was only 21 people on this call. At convention, 50-60 people are in the room.

Molly – Our LMSC can't even find enough delegates, so people may be getting tired of virtual everything.

Bill - Make sure the board hears opinions on virtual convention

Crystie - Didn't get any reminders this year. Last year, once we were signed up we had reminders at least the day of. There was none for this meeting.

Kenny – They are not using the the same service and may need to look at that for the future. Let Chris C know how you feel about it.

Donita – Her team is putting on “400 pull for Sebastopol” epostal. Please sign up if you are interested.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03pm EST
