

Chairs and Vice Chairs Peer-to-Peer Teleconference

February 16, 2014

The items posted in this section are notes from conversations that are not reviewed or approved by the attendees. The information in these notes is not intended to override guidelines, policies and procedures listed elsewhere in the LMSC Guide to Operations or elsewhere on usms.org or in the USMS rule book.

Michael Moore opened the call at 8:00pm.

Present on the call were Lynn Morrison (North Texas and Chair of the Mentoring Subcommittee), Michael Moore (Pacific), Jerry Clark (North Carolina), Jeanne Seidler (C-Wisconsin), Susan Kirk (C-New Jersey), Roberta Saint-Amour (C-Metro New York), Danielle Newton (VC-North Carolina), Doug Hayden (C- Missouri Valley), Dewey Smith (C-Oklahoma), Michael Stresemann (C- South Carolina, Susan DeMere (VC – South Carolina, Donn Livoni (C-Montana), Ed Coates (C-South Texas), Mark Moore (C-Southern Pacific), Marty Hendrick (C-Florida Gold), Rich Garza (VC-Florida Gold), Jon Blank (C-North Carolina).

Michael asked the Chairs and Vice Chairs if anyone has any questions about their job descriptions as stated in the USMS Guide to Operations. Dewey Smith asked who in an LMSC votes on bylaws – just the officers or all who attend the LMSC annual meeting? He also asked if it is ok to ask everyone registered with his LMSC to vote online. Ed Coates commented that the South Texas LMSC sends out a 60 day notice about an upcoming LMSC annual meeting and that anyone attending - usually about 25 of the 800+/- registered members, is allowed to vote. Lynn Morrison said that North Texas allows online voting. Michael Moore said that the Pacific LMSC's annual meeting brings in a speaker and has a dinner meeting; each Club in attendance has one vote on LMSC matters. Susan Kirk said the NJ LMSC has about 15 of the 900+/- members in attendance at its annual meeting and that just their board votes on bylaws. Marty Hendricks said that Florida Gold has a task force working on revised bylaws and that the matter of who can vote will be included in the revised bylaws. At the present, they have about 30 people show up (15 are board members) at annual meetings. Donn Livoni said that Montana has its annual meeting at a swim meet and that anyone in attendance (which is about 40% of their membership) can vote. Jerry Clark said the LMSC for NC has the following sentence in its bylaws: *The management of the LMSC shall be vested in the Board, which shall consist of five (5) Officers - the chair, vice chair, secretary, treasurer, and registrar, whose general responsibilities are listed in Addendum A, and three (3) Directors whose general responsibilities are listed in Addendum B.*

Although no conclusion was reached on the call, the implication from the people who stated an approximate number of attendees was that anyone present could vote. This matter will be posted in the

LMSC Development Committee section of the forum on the USMS website with hope that more LMSCs will state their policies about voting on bylaws.

Michael inquired about Succession Plans in the LMSCs. No one said their LMSC has a succession plan. Several spoke out that they want one in order to prevent 'dictatorships' from occurring, which in some cases, has been the norm for more than a few years. One person mentioned that their LMSC has two co-chairs. Some spoke in favor of term limitations. Jon Blank mentioned that the LMSC for NC has some experienced people serving which provides guidance to incoming new board members. It became clear that Donn Livoni said the size of LMSCs has a lot to do with how long people remain on the board; the smaller the LMSCs, the more board members who remain on that board for more than just a few years, mainly because it is hard to recruit new members.

Jerry asked if any LMSCs provide financial support to its officers or members. Some said they pay the annual dues for some of their officers. Jeanne Seidler mentioned they pay the dues for their Officials Chair if he/she is not a swimmer. She also said that their LMSC waives the \$11.00 Workout Group registration fee for 10 people. One LMSC mentioned making donations to organizations who work with people who have mental health deficiencies. No LMSC said it waives dues for volunteers, somewhat in contrast with what was heard on the first Chair / Vice Chair teleconference February 3rd.

Michael then asked how LMSCs retain their members. Susan Kirk said they (NJ) have socials which are generally well attended. Dewey Smith said they (Oklahoma) make awards for members as they attain higher levels of membership (ex: 5 yrs = a bag tag). Susan said they also do that. Another LMSC chair said they award a \$25.00 gift certificate for whatever reasons. Yet another LMSC said they have a designated date on which they do One Hundred 100s, and the LMSC pays for the pool space that day. All are good ideas.

Michael then closed the meeting by asking and recommending that people post their thoughts, questions and ideas in the LMSC Development Committee space on the USMS forum

Adjournment took place at 8:58pm Eastern.

Minutes recorded by Jerry Clark