

Convention Election Schedule and Procedures

THURSDAY, September 16, 2010

1. 8:00am - 8:45am Zone Meetings – Zone Endorsements
 - a. Only zone member Delegates shall be eligible to vote.
 - b. The zone member running the election ("Zone Election Chair") shall present the list of nominees compiled by the Election Committee.
 - c. After nominations are closed, at the discretion of the Zone, each Director candidate shall be given time during which the nominator and/or candidate may speak.
 - d. Following nominations: 1) Votes shall be taken by secret ballot, 2) Each zone member Delegate may cast a vote for or against endorsement of each individual candidate, 3) Each candidate receiving a majority of votes for endorsement shall be forwarded to the Election Committee for announcement during the election meeting.
2. 9:45am - 11:00am House of Delegates – Floor Nominations
 - a. Each nomination from the floor requires a Delegate nominator and a Delegate to second the nomination.
 - b. The nominee shall confirm their willingness to run, as a candidate for the nominated position.
 - c. Following a nomination and second, the floor candidates shall submit a completed nomination packet.
 - d. Each floor candidate's paperwork will be duplicated and distributed to the HOD to allow time for review prior to the Election.
 - e. Any candidate running unopposed, after floor nominations have been closed, shall be elected by acclamation
3. 11:00am - 11:45am Meet the Candidates Forum
 - a. Each candidate shall have three minutes to speak
 - b. Candidate Q&A

FRIDAY, September 17, 2010

1. 8:00am - 9:15am House of Delegates – Elections
 - a. For each contested position 1) Votes shall be taken by secret ballot, 2) The vote shall be taken simultaneously for all positions, 3) If a contested position does not have a more than 50% of valid votes cast, a run-off vote shall be held between the top two candidates from the first vote.

Candidate Nominations and Letters of Recommendations

Colonies Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Chris McGiffin

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Chris McGiffin for the position of At-Large Colonies Zone Board of Directors of United States Masters Swimming.

Chris has served as the chair of the New Jersey LMSC from 2004 through 2009 and through his leadership, has brought a significant increase in membership and enhanced the focus and presence of the NJLMSC board at both a local and national level. Chris has always led the NJ LMSC to increase the opportunities for the entire membership of maintaining a healthy lifestyle through swimming.

Chris is very well qualified for this position with his strong background in the New Jersey LMSC, as well as his chairmanship of the USMS Marketing Committee and involvement with the USMS Legislation Committee.

Chris has been particularly successful in greatly increasing the USMS “brand awareness” in New Jersey. Chris implemented an LMSC Membership Promotion Campaign, and also developed an LMSC Membership Recognition Awards Program, which led to significant, year-to-year increases in membership. He also helped to create an Annual LMSC

United States Masters Swimming 2010 Election Additional Materials

Page 2 of 8

September 5, 2010

Awards Banquet which has provided a venue to bring USMS Leadership to New Jersey so that they could share the mission and vision of USMS. Chris has also led efforts to sanction open water events at the beautiful Jersey shore and has been particularly good at keeping the LMSC well connected with both the Zone and the National organization.

I am very pleased to endorse Chris McGiffin for the At-Large Colonies Zone Board of Directors position. His energy and enthusiasm will serve USMS well.

Sincerely,

Ed Tsuzuki
Vice President, Local Operations

I am pleased and honored to recommend Chris McGiffin as a candidate for the Board of Directors position representing the Colonies Zone.

Chris has been a teammate for 15 years, a co-leader of our Club for 5 years, the Chair of our LMSC for 5 years, and is currently the Vice-Chair of our LMSC. His passion for Masters swimming is ever present and his dedication to the service of our USMS membership at the Club level, the LMSC level, and the National level does not waiver.

During Chris' 5-year tenure as our LMSC Chair, we saw our membership grow by 40%! He was instrumental in creating and implementing a successful LMSC Membership Promotion Program. Chris was a major developer in our unique initiative to design, build, and implement a NJ LMSC run Continuous Membership Recognition Program and he continues to be an integral partner in running the program. This is a fine example of Chris' ability to blend his skills of thinking outside of the box to devise a big picture initiative, yet significantly contribute to the small details in carrying out the tasks to bring the initiative to fruition.

Chris is an inspiration to our LMSC community and has been successful at broadening the scope and the depth of our NJ LMSC Volunteer Board. However, he recognizes that growing and retaining an LMSC volunteer base is an ongoing challenge that LMSCs will continue to face. His desire and ability to develop and lead initiatives to address this mounting challenge will be an asset to the Board of Directors and to U.S. Masters Swimming as a whole.

Chris' proven leadership skills, his understanding of the structure of USMS on numerous levels, and his passion and vision for the future direction of U.S. Masters Swimming make him an ideal candidate to be an advocate for the Colonies Zone on the Board of Directors.

Please let me know if you require any additional information and please feel free to publish this letter of recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Kirk
NJ LMSC Chair and Secretary
USMS Long Distance Committee Member

It is my pleasure to recommend Chris McGiffin for an At-Large USMS Board of Director position. I have been acquainted with Chris since his first attendance at a USMS Convention in 2005. Most of my interactions have been within the Colonies Zone where Chris has worked with development of the New Jersey LMSC and its clubs. I have also worked on the Legislation Committee with Chris for the past few years.

Chris has been a dedicated volunteer working on trying to increase USMS presence, membership and services at the local through national level and would be an excellent addition to the USMS Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Debbie Morrin-Nordlund

Dixie Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Rowdy Gaines

I am writing to nominate and recommend Rowdy Gaines as the Dixie Zone USMS representative for the USMS Board of Directors.

I have known Rowdy since his swimming days at Auburn and his athletic accomplishments speak for themselves. Rowdy has never “left” the sport as others do and has a passion for the development and growth of the sport of swimming no matter if he is broadcasting an Olympics or doing a Rowdy’s Kids Camp. As a board member I am sure he will bring vision to the USMS and will only work with others to promote, enhance and grow USMS .

I find it odd that I am writing a letter of recommendation for Rowdy and if he is chosen to be the Dixie Zone representative to the USMS Board of Directors, he will never here the end of it from me. I highly recommend him for this position as would anyone in the world of swimming if asked to write a letter on his behalf.

Sincerely,

Keith M. Switzer (USMS Member)
President
Carolina Pool Management Columbia

I am writing to nominate and recommend Ambrose Rowdy Gaines as the Dixie Zone USMS representative for the USMS Board of Directors.

Rowdy has been involved with swimming for over 30 years beginning as an age group swimmer and becoming an international superstar. Not only is he a 3 time Olympic Gold Medalist, he is known worldwide as the voice of swimming and ambassador of swimming. But beyond all his accomplishments in the sport, Rowdy has, in my opinion, given more back to swimming than any other swimmer, coach or any other individual has in our sport’s history. Through his work with the US Swimming Foundation, Rowdy’s Kidz program, Learn to Swim, and all his other support, he has truly touched and inspired thousands of swimmers, and non swimmers.

Rowdy is a living legend not only in the sport of swimming, but in the Olympic arena as well. I could go on and on about his swimming achievements and all he has given back to the sport of swimming. However, I think the best way to describe his character is to quote him directly. This is from his induction speech into the Olympic Hall of Fame: “293 Olympic brothers and sisters of mine that were on the 1980 team that didn’t have a chance to compete before or after, this is for you.”

I cannot think of any person more deserving or who would benefit USMS more than Rowdy. He will make an excellent Dixie Zone representative to the USMS Board of Directors. This may be published.

Sincerely,

Scot Weiss

Great Lakes Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Phil Dodson

I am writing to nominate Phil Dodson to a seat on the Board of Directors of United States Masters Swimming representing Great Lakes Zone. I feel he would be a great addition to the Board and hope my fellow USMS members will vote him into the position.

Best Regards

Homer Lane

I am writing to recommend Phil Dodson to a seat on the Board of Directors of United States Masters Swimming representing Great Lakes Zone. Phil is uniquely qualified for this position because of his strong financial management background and general business operating experience. Phil, a CPA, has demonstrated his financial skill set and management prowess by running his own firm since 1991.

Phil has served faithfully on the Finance Committee since 2007. During this time he has volunteered on a number of task force projects, including budget procedures, FOG review, Audit Committee Charter and a new chart of accounts for USMS. He has been appointed recently to the newly formed Audit Committee. Phil will always work tirelessly for USMS

It is a pleasure for me to heartily recommend, without reservation, Phil Dodson to the Board of Directors of USMS representing Great Lakes Zone.

His honesty, loyalty, creativity, and ambition will serve our organization well. I look forward to serving with Phil on the Board of USMS.

Ralph Davis.
Treasurer USMS

I would like to recommend Phil Dodson for the position of Great Lakes Zone Director. I have known Phil for ten years and I strongly believe that Phil has the commitment and the financial background to perform the required duties as a Board member. As a USMS Board member myself; I have seen our organization evolve and the role of the Board has also changed. Phil has the financial background to ensure that United States Masters Swimming will have fiscal accountability. Phil will also assist the organization in strategic planning and policy making.

Phil has board of director's experience. Phil has been a member of the Illinois LMSC (ILMSA) Board as Finance chair for five years. He has done an exceptional job and has provided the LMSC financial stability. He established an invest policy and reorganized the LMSC cost center, which has made keeping track of expenses and revenue significantly easier. He has been instrumental in NOT increasing the LMSC dues for the past five years. He has shown organizational and leadership skills and he consistently meets deadlines. He has also recognized that providing more services to members will retain membership and increase growth.

Phil is a four time cancer survivor. He is a fighter and when situations become challenging and others might give up; he won't. Phil has stated that he doesn't know if swimming helped him beat cancer, if not, swimming surely did help him. He also has a compassionate heart and will help out someone if they would ask him too.

Phil has also worked with many board of directors from other organizations. He is always one of the top fundraisers for Swim Across America in Chicago.

Phil is a very strong candidate for the U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors. USMS would be fortunate to have a person like Phil Dodson as a member of the Board of Directors. I fully support Phil Dodson's candidacy for the Great Lakes Zone Director.

Swimcerely

Nadine KM Day, Vice President of Community Service

Northwest Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Hugh Moore

Nomination: It is my honor to nominate Hugh Moore for At-Large Director from the Northwest Zone.

Reference: Hugh has served U.S. Masters Swimming in many capacities over the last 30 years. He has extensive experience at both the local and national level, with both the "wet" and "dry" side. He has served on more than 15 national committees, and been chair of several. He has been meet director for a number of meets, including four national championships, and has continuously served his LMSC for over 25 years. I could go on about his experience, but you can see from his resume he is not shy about volunteering.

Hugh and I have worked together in many capacities, including our LMSC board and three years together on the Executive Committee. I have a great deal of respect for his practical approach to problem solving, in areas such as swimmers outreach, member growth and communications. Hugh has been an important element and always has a contribution to the discussion at hand.

In USMS' transition from a volunteer driven organization to staff driven, the role of the board is shifting to that of a policy board. Current board members must have a global view of USMS with the intent to set policy that best serves the organization. I believe that Hugh, with the depth and breadth of his involvement, has the ability and dedication to do the job well. He will work hard and smart in support of the organization.

Hugh's experience, knowledge and straightforward approach make him an ideal candidate for the position of At-Large Director from the Northwest Zone.

Sincerely,
Jeanne Ensign

Hugh Moore has dedicated a significant portion of his life to Masters swimming. He helped organize a team and hosted meets in Kansas beginning in 1978. From there he moved to the Pacific Northwest and has been a strong force ever since as LMSC president, secretary, meets chair, registrar, webmaster, and board member. He has led our LMSC in hosting four national championship meets, and he has hosted multiple zone and LMSC championship meets.

Hugh has expertise in all areas of Masters swimming management from LMSC and national leadership to technology to hosting meets to understanding the finances of running the organization. He has served on many USMS committees and has chaired Communications, Planning, Zone, Officials, Registration Computerization, and ad hoc Professional Management

Hugh does not "get his feathers ruffled" but rather remains calm in the face of conflict or crisis and works toward the best solution.

Hugh always has the best interests of Masters swimmers at heart. He has innovative ideas that improve the operation of the organization for Masters swimmers everywhere. He's not just an idea man. He follows through on his ideas working with teams of people to see them through to implementation.

We in the Northwest would be lost without Hugh, and USMS should not lose his leadership either. Vote for Hugh Moore for At-Large Director.

Kathy Casey

Oceana Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Jim Clemmons

I nominate Jim Clemmons of the Oceana Zone for the US Masters Swimming's Board of Director's At-Large Director from the Oceana Zone.

Sincerely
Michael W. Moore

It is a distinct pleasure to provide a reference letter in support of Jim Clemmons nomination for Zone Director At Large. Jim has been a valued member of the Manatee Aquatic Masters since October of 1999. Since joining our team Jim has inspired us with his competitive zeal and achievements, but more so with his commitment to our team, the Pacific LMSC and US Masters Swimming. Jim has volunteered at all of these levels and demonstrated an ability to handle any tasks related to those organizations that come his way. Jim's people skills and his professional bearing make him a natural leader who enjoys being part of a productive group.

I believe that Jim will perform the duties of Zone Director at Large with the enthusiasm that he brings to his competitive endeavors, and that his professionalism and dedication to seeing a job through will serve the USMS BOD very well.

Our team will be very proud to have one of our own serving at the national level, we are sure that Jim will serve the membership of USMS as well as he's served the swimmers on our team and the Pacific LMSC.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Stack

Head Coach, Manatee Aquatic Masters Oakland CA

I am honored to support Jim Clemmons for the position of United States Masters Swimming At Large Director for the term beginning in 2010.

Jim is an active swimmer, team member, competitor, and administrator in Pacific Masters Swimming. In Pacific Masters he is currently serving as Vice Chairman of Operations and oversees the committees of Meet operations, Hospitality/Equipment, Open Water, Coaches, and Officials.

He has attended the USMS Convention since 2005 and served on the USMS Coaches Committee, Finance Committee and Championship Committee, at various times, during the past 5 years. He will bring professionalism to the board as well as experience within this organization.

Jim will be a board member who is approachable, who listens to all sides of an issue, is intelligent, experienced in making challenging decisions, is creative and farsighted. Jim represents all we value in our sport - excellence as an athlete, in competition, as a leader, and most especially as a person who displays respect, sportsmanship, responsiveness, and openness to everyone fortunate enough to know him. He is at a point where he is able to give more of his time and talents to USMS. We couldn't ask for a better candidate.

Sincerely,
Nancy Ridout

Southwest Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Errol Graham

I would like to nominate Errol Graham for the position of Director of US Masters Swimming. This letter represents my unqualified and absolute support of Errol.

I have known Errol for about 20 years, in which time he has been active on the club, local and national level in various capacities, including committees, elected positions and special appointments. He is a familiar face at our swim meets and voice on our LMSC conference calls. He has volunteered to construct the policy manual for Southern Pacific Masters Swimming in addition to assisting the SPMA newsletter editor by reviewing every issue prior to submission. Errol understands the importance of recognition, having served on the Southern Pacific Awards Committee for several years, and was himself a recipient of the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award in 2002.

I have never known Errol to be anything but friendly and approachable in his demeanor, and thoughtful and diligent in his approach to tasks assigned to him.

Errol has extensive experience in Masters swimming at every level, allowing him to see the big picture. This will enable him to wisely work with and within the Board to set policy that will guide USMS success in the future.

Errol has the experience, personality, and vision to effectively serve USMS on the Board of Directors. I have no doubt and full confidence that having Errol as a Director will be a benefit for USMS that will certainly pay dividends for years to come.

Michael Heather
Vice President, Administration USMS

I am writing this letter in support of Errol Graham for the position of AT-Large Director of United States Masters Swimming, Southwest Zone.

Errol and I began swimming together 20 years ago, sharing a lane for 19 of those years. We have become good friends both in and out of the pool and the aquatics environment. I have known Errol to be passionate and committed to swimming and the swimming community consistently for all these years. He makes a point to make everyone new to our club, West Hollywood Aquatics, feel welcome. At the regional level, he reaches out to swimmers from other teams at the competitions, and as a result, knows most of the people in our area who compete regularly. At the USMS yearly convention he also connects with many people from all over the country. To say that Errol is outgoing is an understatement.

Errol has an innate sense of how organizations should be run: with integrity and fairness to all. This has been apparent in the various positions I've known him to hold over the years. Over the course of 21 years with West Hollywood Aquatics, he has been President, Administrative Vice President, Social Vice President, and most recently, Treasurer. He has been on the Southern Pacific Masters Association (SPMA) Executive Committee and the USMS Championship Committee. He spearheaded a project to write a Policy and Procedures manual for West Hollywood Aquatics, and recently did the same for SPMA.

I believe that Errol will bring the same devotion to the position of Director of USMS that he has shown in all his other capacities and that USMS will be the richer for it.

Sincerely,

Jessica W. Seaton, D.C.
USMS Sports Medicine Committee
USMS Rules Committee
USMS IGLA Liaison

Southwest Zone, At Large Director Candidate – Phil Whitten

I am writing to nominate Phil Whitten as Board of Directors member from the Southwest Zone.

Paul Smith

I am writing to recommend Phil Whitten as Board of Directors member from the Southwest Zone. I have known Phil for many years and consider him a good friend. I have always admired and respected his dedication to our sport.

Because of his varied and extensive background in research, writing and publishing and his involvement in Masters Swimming, USA Swimming and college swimming, Phil will bring a unique perspective to the Board of Directors. I believe he has a lot to offer as our organization continues to grow and to evolve. The role of the Board of Directors is changing as we adapt to professional management, I sincerely believe that Phil will be an asset in dealing with the Board's role in establishing policy.

When Phil called to tell me he was going to run for the Board of Directors, he said it was time for him to give back and dedicate his time to USMS. I am sure that USMS will benefit from his involvement.

I enthusiastically endorse Phil Whitten for this position on the Board.

Betsy Durrant
USMS Zone Chairman, 1991-1995
USMS Secretary, 1997-2001
USMS BOD, 2005-2010

I would like to recommend Phil Whitten for the position of the Southwest Zone Director.

I have known Phil for eight years. Phil has been involved with Masters Swimming for 40 years. I strongly believe that Phil has the leadership skills and background to enhance the growth and leadership of U.S. Masters Swimming.

Phil started swimming Masters in December of 1970 and nothing has stopped him from continuing his passion. Phil has been instrumental in getting Masters Swimming recognized in the United States. He wrote an article in Parade Magazine that resulted in over 30,000 people responding to the article and wanting more information about Masters Swimming.

He has been an advocate in promoting swimming all over the world. He is well respected in the swimming community. Phil has the experience. He was the Executive Director of the College Swim Coaches Association of America (CSCAA) from 2006-2009. He has written many articles on Swimming and Masters Swimming. He was the editor in chief for "Swimming World",

"SWIM" and "Swimming Technique" Magazine. He was inducted into the International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) in 2005 for his contributions. Phil was also instrumental in starting the USMS All Times Listing.

Besides his history and experience, Phil has foresight. Phil's philosophy is to trust people that you put in charge and believes communication are the key to success. Phil has been an advocate for Swimming for 40 years and he has maintained the integrity of our sport. He has a great understanding of our sport and also has the vision to see the changes that are evolving. HE believes in the potential of USMS to provide improved services to its members. He is energized and wants to help USMS strategize to become one of the best NGB by becoming a Board Member.

I feel that Phil Whitten would be an exceptional the Southwest Zone Director candidate for the U.S. Masters Swimming Board of Directors. USMS would be very fortunate to have a candidate like Phil Whitten as a member of the Board of Directors.

I fully support Phil Whitten's candidacy for the Southwest Zone Director.

Swimcerely,

Nadine KM Day, Vice President of Community Service