

Greg Danner - Candidate for Secretary



The Election Committee has deemed that Greg Danner 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, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Chris McGiffin* and received letters of recommendation from *Jeanne Seidler* and *Chris Stevenson* in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

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

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years? Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No NA

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

2010 – Dallas

2011 – Jacksonville

2012 – Greensboro

2013 – Anaheim

2014 – Jacksonville

2016 – Atlanta

Section Three: Questions

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

The Secretary role is the perfect opportunity for me to learn more about USMS and simultaneously give back to a group that has been a great source of inspiration. I enjoy observing and participating in group discussions in all matters related to swimming.

I would be a good candidate because I am experienced with digital storage and organization. I am quick to respond to all forms of correspondence (email, text, phone). I am comfortable researching and working with emerging technologies. As the former Records & Tabulation Vice Chair, I recorded meeting minutes for three consecutive years. I am familiar with submitting the minutes to the Secretary and the associated responsibilities of the position. As LMSC Chair, I implemented the USMS Meeting Minutes template for our local meetings back in 2013.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

The 2017 LMSC Leadership Summit identified several of the major issues that USMS faces. After hearing from the various LMSC leaders around the country, it became clear that many of these challenges are consistent no matter where we live:

- Our volunteers continue to be one of our best assets, but we can always strive for improvement and smooth transitions. We are on the right track with the LMSC Standards and training documentation, but they will require regular assessment and fine-tuning. I would like to address this issue by adding more opportunities for volunteer interaction and training. If we are to successfully implement the USMS Strategic Plan at the local level, this will be necessary.
- Membership value for all types of existing and prospective members. As a competitive swimmer, I applaud USMS for all the opportunities that they provide. But, we must do a better job serving fitness members (our silent majority) and improve our diversity outreach. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, I will support measures to expand clinic programs and ALTS.
- Brand clarity: USMS shared market research indicating most fitness swimmers were not aware of USMS or the purpose of the organization. I have come across many such individuals during lap swim at various facilities in New York. Although we have a strong online presence at the national level, we must assist our LMSCs in furthering our spread of information. Where USMS might seem abstract to prospective members, the LMSC website and social media fill in to connect that member locally. This becomes increasingly important with every passing year, as younger generations use technology more than the generation before them. I want USMS to be able to offer more resources for LMSCs creating and maintaining their online presence.

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:

Records and Tabulation 2011-2012 (Chris Stevenson - Chair)

Records and Tabulation Vice Chair 2012-2014 (Chris Stevenson - Chair)

Records and Tabulation Vice Chair 2014-2015 (Jeanne Seidler - Chair)

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

Attended the 2017 LMSC Leadership Summit

Niagara LMSC Chair (2011 – current). As LMSC Chair, I introduced Policies and Procedures documentation and oversaw changes to bylaws. I helped lead our LMSC to all-time highs in membership and the most number of local swim meets and clinics each year.

Niagara LMSC Webmaster/Social Media Director (2010 – current). I have performed two website redesigns during my tenure. Our current website (www.niagaramasters.org) is a mobile friendly platform. I created our Facebook page and post content several times per week.

Niagara LMSC Top Ten Recorder (2011-2014). I trained the incoming TTR as I was outgoing.

Niagara LMSC Records (2010-2012)

Niagara LSC Athlete Rep (2010-current)

Niagara LSC Board of Review (2011-2014)

USMS Certified Coach (Level I and II)

15 years as IT professional (currently a Director of IT)

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am getting married in late August, so I will be coming to the convention right after the honeymoon! We are the proud parents of two rescue cats: Brewster and Trixie.

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 member of USMS since 2006, attending meets at all levels (local, regional, national, and international) during that time. I began volunteering in 2010, became the Chair the following year, and started serving on a national committee at the same time. I want to help keep USMS on task and guide the organization through the changes we need to succeed.

From: Chris McGiffin, NJ LMSC and current VP Programs
Date: April 27, 2017

Re: Letter of Nomination for Greg Danner

To: The Elections Committee

It is my pleasure to nominate Greg Danner as a candidate for the USMS Executive Committee position of Secretary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris McGiffin". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Chris McGiffin, USMS VP Programs

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

From: Jeanne Seidler
262-894-0613

Date: April 28, 2017

Subject: Recommendation for USMS Secretary Position
Candidate, Gregory M. Danner, Niagara LMSC

To: The Elections Committee

By this letter, I am recommending Gregory M. Danner to the position of USMS Secretary. This recommendation is based upon my association and experience with Greg while he was the Vice Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee during my tenure as the Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee.

During the two years (2014 & 2015) that Greg was the Vice Chair, he did an excellent job of capturing the minutes of the RT Committee conference calls. He published the first draft of the minutes within a day or two of the call. During the calls, even with conversations occurring quickly on multiple topics, Greg was still able to participate in the calls with valued discussions while capturing the essence of the calls for the minutes.

I believe it is vital for USMS to include the upcoming generation of swimmers in the volunteer executive structure. Greg will bring the viewpoint of the millennial generation into discussions which is important for increasing the understanding of how to attract and engage the newest members in U.S. Masters Swimming.

For these points, I'm pleased to recommend Greg for the position of USMS Secretary.

Sincerely,

Jeanne E. Seidler
Chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee

I am writing this letter in strong support of the **Greg Danner** for the office of Secretary of USMS. When I was chair of the Records and Tabulation committee, Greg was my vice chair for three years. During that time he was responsible for keeping minutes for all of our meetings, and he did so in a very prompt and efficient manner. Greg's technical savvy was also quite apparent in our committee discussions, and his background in IT would serve him very well as Secretary.

Greg has been a consistent and committed volunteer for USMS for quite some time. He has regularly attended convention since 2010, has served with distinction on a national committee, and has held numerous positions at the LMSC level. His contributions to committee discussions were thoughtful and his positions were always well considered; he tended to be a calming influence if discussions ever became heated. He would perform his duties as secretary very well, and his voice would be valued on the Board of Directors. He has my highest recommendation.