

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Miller at 7:32 PM EST. Present were Sally Dillon, Nancy Ridout, Lynn Hazlewood, Jack Geoghegan, Tracy Grilli, and Scott Rabalais. Doug Church joined the meeting in progress.

1. The next conference call will take place on Monday, June 24 at 7:30 PM EST for the specific purpose of discussing convention planning.
2. DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the May 7, 2002 conference call were approved, sent to the BOD, and posted on the USMS web site.
3. OFFICER REPORTS:
President - Jim reported that the Sports Medicine Committee is engaged in discussion with SWIM Magazine regarding independent articles that are not reviewed by anyone within USMS. SWIM contends that the disclaimer in the magazine covers for controversy that may arise; though the appearance is that the article originated from USMS. The International Committee is taking up the task of the responsibility of USMS to host a FINA World Masters Swimming Championship. This bid would be for 2006 and the International Committee would solicit appropriate bidders for the consideration over the next year. USMS is also coming due to host the Pan Pacs. The last games were scheduled for Hong Kong, but 9/11 changed all that, and another bid has not come forward. Nancy noted that initially the US was supposed to host the meet and she was unable to get a host so Hong Kong became the site. There is fear that these may fail if they are suspended too long. Such a bid would be for a time as early as 2003. The Data Base Task Force has held three conference calls and the minutes are on the web. Regarding the USA-Triathlon liaison, Jim reported that the minutes of the meeting in Colorado Springs have been circulated and agendas are under way to find ways that both organizations can work together for the common good. Cindy Hawkinson is a very talented liaison for USMS to USA-Triathlon. Reporting on convention, Jim noted that At-Large berths are being assigned at this time, with 3-4 to go. A summary introduction letter has been sent to those already appointed for them to accept or not the position. The emphasis is on the unique honor and role of the At-Large delegate as a representative to the entirety of USMS, not just their local LMSC or club.

Vice President - Scott reported that for the Coaches Committee, the quota is filled on the ASCA grants and roughly 25 have applied. Mel Goldstein is looking to secure additional sponsors and, depending on costs for the presenters' travel/stipend, a few more grants may be available in the event budget. Fitness – with regards to the goal of having 10 virtual swims for convention, two have been completed. Virtual swims are events such as "Swim Lake Titicaca." Each LMSC has been asked to come up with one specific for their area. Then, swimmers go the distance of that particular body of water (or whatever the item). He is aware of one that was held in Louisiana and the swim was to complete a length of Lake Pontchartrain in New Orleans - about 25 miles. Recognition & Awards – Hugh and Jane Moore are the 2002 Ransom Arthur winners.

Secretary - Sally reported that a form designed for annual reports was distributed on May 31 to everyone who is expected to provide an annual report for the convention packet. The History & Archives committee has provided input into the database project and is also working with various committees to received historical documents for our files at the Henning Library. Many stories have been written about Masters swimmers and submitted to the H&A committee for inclusion on the web site. The Safety Education committee has divided up into a few sub-committees. The USA Swimming Safety Manual is being reviewed for information that might be useful to the USMS Safety Manual that is being developed. The committee has had a good deal of discussion about requiring or encouraging coaches to have safety certifications (e.g. CPR, First Aid, Coaches Safety Training). The Publications committee is soliciting artwork for the cover of the 2003 Rule Book.

Sally presented a list of questions that would be included in a demographic survey of convention delegates – prior to convention. The objective is to help introduce the new delegates and to make all delegates more informed. The idea was well received and a number of good suggestions were provided. EC members will submit their ideas within the next couple of weeks. Sally gave an update on delegate entitlements - the 2nd notice was sent out by the National Office in May. June 15 is the last day to determine entitlements. Fewer than ten LMSCs have reported their delegates but they still have plenty of time; a 3rd notice will go out mid-June.

Treasurer – Doug reported that Tom Boak has sent out the budget forms to the chairs. It would be useful to have another follow-up with some "tips" included and the committees should consider if they want conference calling capabilities. Jim asked Sally to prepare the information and send it to each group of committee chairs on behalf of their liaisons. This will assure that all of the BOD and liaisons receive the same directions in preparation of their budgets. Doug and/or Tom Boak will see that the chairs receive last year's raw committee budgets. Doug

also reported that interest rates are incredibly low (2%). Our interest income is expected to be lower than last year but there is not much that can be done.

Past President – Nancy reported that by the end of the week the News Room should be up on the USMS web site. It will contain a variety of information for publications interested in our organization. Regarding registration, a forum for the committee to discuss the database project has been established on the USMS web site. Nancy also reported that Mel Goldstein was able to get funding to assist the additional coaches for the ASCA clinic. She has reviewed the USMS/Barracuda contract with Mel and Jack said the changes have been made. Nancy met with Aimee Fitzgerald regarding the News Room, and Scott regarding the SWIM editor job description. Funding for the web master was discussed and Jim will contact Jim Matysek for more information.

Zone Chair – Lynn reported that a proposal for updating the Professional Management Guidelines is available for the EC to discuss. The changes are intended to add the category of professional consultant to the professional staff positions already defined by the PMG. This is the type of consultant that projects like the Database Project will be hiring. The Long Distance Committee and its chair, Peter Crumbine, are to be commended for competently handling many complicated issues this year including time limits for national championships, point calculation for LD All Stars, preparing to propose rules changes, and streamlining championship bids. In addition, the committee is now conducting all of its business electronically. The Planning Committee LMSC project, which has been ongoing for several months, is now moving into the process of coming up with concrete recommendations. The suggestions will be taken to the BOD and implemented in conjunction with other committees. Several trial web sites will soon be in the testing stage - Fitness Web Site, Sports Medicine Web Site, and Press Release Web Site. The Zone Committee will shortly begin discussions on a number of issues. Some should be resolved by convention and others will extend into 2003.

Legal Counsel – Jack reported that rate increases in the insurance industry are across the board and we can expect to see increased costs. Jack has not heard back from the Over 40 magazine but Jim has and will contact them about the contract.

4. DATABASE PROJECT - The distribution of the Database Project meeting minutes were discussed. They are being posted on the web and Sally suggested they be sent to the BOD. Lynn will send them to Sally for distribution. The Database committee is meeting about every 10 days. The announcement of RFPs in SWIM Magazine was discussed and it was decided that the majority of the RFP can be prepared so it can quickly get into the magazine once a decision is made at convention. SWIM Magazine is our best source to distribute the RFP but the information should be publicized on the web site and elsewhere.
5. LISTING OF NON-SANCTIONED MEETS ON THE USMS CALENDAR - Doug has made an inquiry about reasonable fees for posting information on our site from non-members. He will e-mail the information tomorrow. The fees would be nominal and the charge only for non-members. A sense of the committee is that a nominal charge (\$25 or less) is not inappropriate. It was MSA there would be a nominal charge assessed for the listing of non-sanctioned meets on the web site. The amount will be determined after Doug and Scott conduct further research.
6. CONVENTION PLANS - Reservations – the confirmation numbers were sent to everyone by E-mail in mid-May. Registration – Sally reminded everyone to take care of their own convention registration. Theme – The concept of developing a theme was discussed. Our convention format is a radical change for the old delegates. We should look for a central idea that ties us together. Scott will generate an E-mail discussion that will help us focus for our “convention” conference call on the 24th.
7. PROFESSIONAL MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES – the approval of suggested changes was tabled until the next regular meeting.
8. SWIM MAGAZINE - Jim shared the discussions that he has had with Phil Whitten and Richard Deal regarding the disclaimer for the upcoming article on Barry Sears. The EC's goal is to maintain editorial control according to the rights of our contract with SWIM Magazine. It was agreed that Jim should contact Phil and Richard to let them know that we have discussed the situation during our conference call and that the wording in the disclaimer should be exactly as Jim had submitted. Jack pointed out that we should do this because a different disclaimer would be a disservice to our membership.

9. COMMITTEE SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE - With Sally's help, Jim will be putting out a survey to all committee chairs within the next day or so. He is interested in the chair's feelings about their committees and their members; for example, who has responded and who hasn't. A serious consideration is being made to remove people who don't respond or contribute and a few changes in members have already taken place. This proposal is being discussed with committee chairs as they return their survey forms. The EC is considering putting people on committees who do not attend convention, recognizing that there are a number of talented people who don't have the time or money to attend convention.
10. OTHER BUSINESS - Tracy mentioned an issue raised by a swimmer at a Senior Games meet in which the swimmer was disqualified for doing freestyle during a backstroke event. Tracy provided him information about our relationship with Senior Games and also about the applicable rules regarding the backstroke. She sent a copy of the mini Rule Book.

Sally reminded everyone to please take a look at the summary of "old business" from previous meetings that she distributed earlier in the week and to work toward resolution of any items on the list.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary