

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 8:35 PM, EST. Present were Scott Rabalais, Sally Dillon, Doug Church, Lynn Hazlewood, Nancy Ridout, Patty Powis, and Tracy Grilli.

1. The next conference call will be April 6 at 8:30 PM EST. (Note: changed to April 8, 8:00 PM EST.)
2. DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the February 23 and March 2 conference calls were approved and sent to the BOD and Jim Matysek (for posting on the USMS web site). Sally received the following corrections to the March 2 minutes: Laura Kessler is from the Lake Erie LMSC; Jeff Roddin's name was misspelled. The minutes were corrected and a revised copy sent to Jim Matysek.
3. OFFICER REPORTS:
President: Jim reported that the past month has been a busy one and very rewarding. Not only have we succeeded in our FINA World Championship bid for 2006, but also the BOD has supported all three initiatives that we placed before them (assistant to the Webmaster, Consultant for review of the National Publication, and approval of the panel for the NBR). Jim recently attended the LMSC meetings of both the Metropolitan and Maryland LMSC's. The LMSC in each case indicated how much they appreciated his interest and address which emphasized the Core Objectives and their use, as well as the 'hot' topics currently being discussed by the EC.

Vice President: Scott reported that the Coaches Committee has secured USMS's presence at the 2004 ASCA World Clinic, being held in Indianapolis in October during the World SCM Championships. Over 2000 coaches will attend the clinic. The Masters track will be offered in a limited format. The three presenters on Sunday morning will be Steven Fair (Pirate Swimming, Pensacola, FL): "Bridging the Gap from Age Group to Masters", Scott Rabalais (Savannah Masters, Savannah, GA): "Teaching Technique Through Video Comparison: Common Stroke Deficiencies in Adult Swimmers", and Bob Bruce (Central Oregon Masters Aquatics, Bend, OR): "An Open Forum --This Really Works: 20 Proven Ideas to Help Build Your Masters Program". Scott also reported that USMS would be given free booth space in the clinic's display area. Mel Goldstein will preside over the booth.

Secretary: Sally reported that she has been in contact with Esther Lyman about the delegate information needed for HOD entitlements and the first notice to LMSCs will go out April 15. Sally will be including information about delegate registration and at-large requests in her mid-year report. All of the chairs, special assignments, and liaisons have been sent the information for their mid-year report as well as an additional reminder. They are due to the EC liaisons on the 1st of April (and to Tracy on the 15th). Barbara Dunbar's committee (H&A) has been very active with projects involving photo images, oral histories and stories, and archival materials.

Treasurer: No report

Zone Chair: Lynn reported that the Web Administrators are reviewing the web task list and will soon have a short list of projects to be completed in 2004. The Long Distance committee (Peter Crumbine) is discussing an open water nominee for ISHOF. The Communications Committee (Hugh Moore) is discussing the communications workshop for convention and will shortly begin a discussion of long-range plans for communications in USMS. The Zone Committee will release information on the LMSC Grants program in the next week.

Past President: Nancy reported that Records and Tabulation (Pieter Cath) has been active in compiling, uploading, and publishing the SCM Top Ten. Marketing (Rich Burns) is developing a plan for the Utah Pilot Project in conjunction with the Zone and other committees and has assisted Mel Goldstein in updating the USMS booth pictures.

Legal Counsel: No report

4. NATIONAL PUBLICATION BIDS: Lynn prepared a financial and logistical summary of the 5 bids received for our National Publication. The EC developed a list of "cornerstone" items (specific issues) that we would like the consultant, Mary Bolster, to address as soon as possible.

The EC will ask Mary to have information prepared so that we can meet with her in a conference call no later than May 1. It is important for us to have a recommendation ready for the HOD by August 1 so that the information can be included in the convention packet.

5. 2005 MID-YEAR RETREAT DATES: *It was MSA to schedule next year's EC mid-year retreat to correspond with the IMSHOF induction ceremonies in Ft. Lauderdale.* Scott will confirm the dates for us.
6. GRIEVANCE APPEAL: USMS has been notified by certified mail that one party to an ongoing grievance is appealing the February 12, 2004 decision of the Investigative Committee. It was tentatively agreed that since this grievance process began under the previous USMS rules, Jim would appoint an appeals board consisting of three BOD members (as per Article 404.1, 2003 USMS Rules), pending a ruling by the Legislation Chair and Legal Counsel as to whether the appeal falls under the old rule, shown above, or the new.

It was MSA to adjourn at 10:21 PM, EST.

Respectfully submitted by:
Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary