

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

1. The next conference call will take place Thursday, June 17 at 8:30 pm EDT.
2. DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the April 27 conference call were approved and distributed.
3. OFFICER REPORTS:  
President: Jim reported that the past month has been very busy. He was inducted as a member of the ISHOF Congress on May 7<sup>th</sup>, giving USMS another voice and vote on the Hall of Fame. Jim attended the 40<sup>th</sup> Induction Ceremony on May 8 and it was very well received that the USMS President was in attendance. He heard the comment repeatedly that USMS is an equal partner within USAS and that the time is clearly here for us to take a more active role in the obligations that the other aquatic disciplines share. Jim views that as a very positive step for USMS. He will be attending the FINA World Masters Championships in Italy in early June; meetings are already being called by ASUA and an induction ceremony for ISHOF honoring masters is scheduled. Jim participated in a conference call regarding the pending grievance that will be heard under the new Part IV. The willingness to serve by the pool of members was excellent and there were more than enough that were interested to participate on the panel on the first contact.

Vice President: Scott reported that the Championship Committee (Barry Fasbender) has been actively discussing several possible rules proposals via email among their committee. The Fitness Committee (Pam Himstreet) has called for nominations for the 2004 Fitness Award and is looking for hosts for three 2005 fitness events. Scott has been working with Aimee Bennett (formerly Fitzgerald) on various media requests. One such request by Aimee involves contacting Olympians who are now swimmers in USMS. Her plan is to use a few broad-distribution news releases to capitalize on the Olympics.

Secretary: Sally reported that two notices have been sent to the LMSC representatives regarding their delegate selections for convention. She currently has received 15 delegate lists and numerous requests for At-Large delegate spots. Jim makes the final decision on A-L assignments. The third and final notice will go out mid-June and July 15 has been designated the deadline for applying for an At-Large spot. Sally provided Tracy with the initial list of new delegates and Tracy has sent the necessary registration information. The "newbies" will also receive a welcome letter and information that was prepared by Ginger Pierson and Steve Peterson.

Treasurer: Doug reported that the merchant account materials will be going out in the mail and they will meet the June 1 deadline. This coming weekend Cathy Pennington and Margaret Bayless are getting together to finalize the transition for the Controller position and Doug may join them. Interest rates have pushed up and are nearing 2%. Doug continues to monitor the progress with the Planning sub-committee on governance. He believes an effort is under way that may force a discussion of structure sooner rather than later. Margaret, Doug, and Tom Boak have been working on a plan to handle the World Championship expenses. The audit is being taken care of so it will be available in 2004. Margaret has asked that we budget to have the tax return prepared by the auditors as well.

Zone Chair: Lynn reported that the Long Distance committee has been discussing a number of issues that relate to running open water events with mixed entries (i.e. USMS, USA-Swimming, non-registered swimmers). At convention, they will be offering rule changes to clarify the issue of what types of swimmers can participate on the same day at the same venue with the same meet host and still be a legally sanctioned USMS meet. How the races are organized (starts & finishes) will also be addressed. The Zone committee has been informed that lunches for the Saturday meetings will be taken care of by the local LMSC. She noted that we have 3 applications for convention assistance (Snake River, Oklahoma, and Border) and decisions on grants will be made by July 1. Regarding the Web Contractor,

we have received 29 applications for the position. At this point, the list has been pared to 8 applicants. The target date for choosing the final 3 to interview is May 28 with interviews occurring between 6/16 and 6/22. The Sponsor Feature project is being fine-tuned by Webmaster Jim Matysek and should be ready to go very soon.

Past President: Nancy reported that she participated in a Marketing conference call recently. The Pilot Project has stalled and she requested that another LMSC be selected for the project. Additionally, Nancy has conferred with Mel Goldstein regarding the contract for NIKE.

Legal Counsel: Patty reported that an appeal panel drawn from the Board of Directors and constituted under the new Part 4 has now met by telephone and begun considering the appeal of a grievance that was heard under the old Part 4 in 2003. During the telephone meeting, they discussed process and what will be expected from the panel. Peter Crumbine chairs the panel and the goal is to have a final decision before June 11. She has been working with the History & Archives Committee (Barbara Dunbar) to refine a release for photo subjects and permission from photographers that the committee drafted. The committee is vigilant about ensuring permission for use of photos in the archives and they pushed this project forward. Patty has received all but one signed contract from our independent contractors who needed renewals, and a new contract in the case of our Controller.

4. **WORLD SWIM FOR MALARIA:** Scott reported that this unique event is expected to have over one million swimmers hit the water on December 3, 2005, in an effort that will greatly raise the awareness of swimming and fitness worldwide AND raise funds for malaria causes. During our conference call Rob Mather, chief coordinator of the World Swim for Malaria event, joined us. He provided the background and objectives for the event. All profits go to the cause and many people are donating their time and expenses. Although massive amounts of information will be distributed, no marketing dollars will be spent. The group's goal is to have 20 "key" organizations commit their members and he has 16 so far (the British Army, World Modern Pentathlon organization, British Swimming, the states of Colorado and Oregon, etc.). Microsoft may be the technology partner and the UN and Gates Foundations may be involved. Each participating organization would be responsible for collecting funds and seeing that it they are deposited into an international bank account set up for the event. Rob would like USMS to contribute 5000 participants. After discussion, it was *MSA that we send an email containing a summary of the event information to our club representatives asking them for their interest and participation (with a follow-up email 2 weeks later)*. Rob will provide us with the necessary event information. The organization is set up to track the participation and we will receive feedback.
5. **ASSIGNMENT OF TASKS FOR OUR WEB CONTRACTOR:** A discussion was held regarding various projects that the EC sees as high in priority. We will provide the web managers with input.
6. **2004 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SPONSORSHIP:** Doug reported that advertisements for the program are available beginning at \$500. It was agreed that we would like to pursue the dinner but only if we get an ad. Both Jim and Doug will pursue this further.
7. **SWIM MAGAZINE PROOFREADERS:** The proofreading system has evolved over the last couple of years and is no longer clearly defined. Nancy will report back to the committee after discussing the options with the USMS editor.
8. **ASSESSMENT/REVIEW OF INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR POSITIONS:** In reviewing the contract position of public relations the EC decided to re-evaluate the position and not renew the contract for 2005.
9. **OLD BUSINESS**
  - a. Web contractor contract: Patty will review the document.
  - b. 2006 World Champs: A decision has not been made regarding the source of the IT person. It was confirmed that PMS is not tied to USMS sponsors but we owe them the courtesy to offer them the sponsorship opportunities. As reported earlier, financial arrangements are being set up so that the organizing committee has the necessary funds to proceed.

- d. USMS Logo artwork: Scott reported that the artwork has been sent to Tracy and Patty is reviewing a logo standards manual (USA-Swimming).

It was MSA to adjourn at 10:35 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sally Ann Dillon  
USMS Secretary