

Adirondack Local Masters Swim Committee

2024 Annual Meeting Minutes – Zoom Meeting on December 22, 2024

Draft January 1, 2025 – Finalized January 5, 2025

Attendance via Zoom Call conducted December 22, 2024: Kathy Meany, Brian Yates, Mike Thorp, Karen Byer, Doug Koop, Patrick Quinn, Mike Taetzsch, Willy Grimmke, Marianne Hassan, Deb Roberts, Tammy Gummersheimer, Dale Seaton, Karin Skarka, Tim Sinnenberg, Bob Singer, Steve Atkins, Dan Wall and Amon Emeka

The Minutes from the 2023 AD-LMSC Annual meeting were approved by the membership.

AD-LMSC 2024 in Review and Reports of the Officers

Chairman (Robert Singer)/Vice Chair (Kathy Meany): Kathy reported an overview of the 4 pool meets, 1 open water race, 1 group fitness workout, 1 open water swim clinic, and 1 post meet social that were held by the AD-LMSC during 2024.

New and or expanded coached Masters programs in AD-LMSC were discussed: Vent Fitness in Guilderland and in Latham coached by Brian Yates; Electric City Eels at Union College coached by Molly Chamberlain, Brian Yates, Darby Laflamme; Blue Wave at Schenectady Jewish Community Center coached by Daniel Furman (?), possibly including outdoor pool opportunities in the summer (?); Glens Falls YMCA coached by Dennie Wilson; Uncle Sam Masters in Troy coached by Rob MacLeod; Northern TRIBS Masters in Messina.

Doug Koop was recognized by the group for having been awarded the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award at the USMS Annual Convention in September 2024 for his many years of services to Masters swimming.

Dennie Wilson was our representative at the USMS Volunteer Relay and the National Coaches' Clinic in Houston in October 2024. Dennie filed a summary of her experiences with Bob Singer, Kathy Meany, and Doug Koop. Dennie reported that the Coaches' Clinic and the Volunteer Relay were informative and inspirational and has new ideas for Masters swimming opportunities.

Bob Singer will not be running for reelection as chairman but has agreed to stay on the board ex officio as Past Chairperson and will also continue to serve as our open water committee chairperson. Bob reported that he is pleased that membership in AD-LMSC is back up post-Covid and that our number of annual events for members is increasing as well. The group thanked Bob for serving as AD-LMSC chairperson for four, two year terms, and also for continuing to assist our LMSC going forward.

Looking ahead to 2025, the 4 pool meets and the New Year's Day group fitness workout will continue. One goal is to add a second group fitness workout at a different time of the year in a different location. Another goal is to increase from one post-meet social event to two or three. The open water swim clinic will be held again in 2025, with a goal of adding a pool starts, turns, and strokes clinic that will include a "mini, practice meet." We are hoping that the group fitness workouts and the clinics appeal to members who prefer to not swim in our competitive events. The status of the long-running Mirror Lake/Betsy Ownes/Terry Laughlin open water races is currently in question, as per a message from Matt McMorris, Greenleaf Racing race director. A committee has been formed to investigate its future and to consider other options for continuing these races. And a new open water event will be added in Loon Lake on August 9, 2025. Other tentative goals for 2025 include successful transition to a new board/officers and committee chairs; transitioning to a new website that USMS provides for LMSC's free of charge; and transitioning to a new Facebook page and other social media that are more AD-LMSC member and event focused.

Treasurer (Doug Koop): AD-LMSC has a healthy balance that continues to grow by a small amount every year. We are now paying meet officials and are still to contribute all meet proceeds to the hosting team/facility. USMS has eliminated pool meet and open water race sanction fees and the per swimmer open water fees for 2025. With this change, the AD-LMSC board will need to re-visit how much of meet proceeds are kept by AD-LMSC to cover our costs (i.e. Club Assistant registration fees, social event costs, officials, etc). Treasurer Doug Koop provided a current financial report showing that the accounts balance to the penny. The organization operates on a cash balance basis. See attached financial report.

Member Services Coordinator (Steve Atkins): Steve reported that registrations seem to be increasing by about a dozen swimmers yearly since Covid. There were 195 AD-LMSC/USMS registrants in 2025. As of Dec 22, 2024, there are 104 registrants for 2025. Visually, the average age of participants at events seems to be going down. It was reiterated that the most comprehensive CLUB within AD-LMSC is ADMS, and as such, it is best to affiliate with Club ADMS for those members who want to swim in relays at meets. All members on any relay team must be affiliated with the same CLUB.

Officials Chair (Deb Roberts): Since adopting a new approach of putting meet directors in charge of recruiting meet officials and the adoption of payment for meet officials, it has been easier to staff AD-LMSC meets with officials and referees. JoAnn Faucet of USA Swimming has been essential of helping to identify officials for the Leatherstocking, Skidmore, and Union meets. The Kingston meet is staffed with officials connected with the Kingston/Ulster County YMCA.

Records (Dan Wall): Dan reports 59 new AD-LMSC records and 11 top ten USMS finishers. Meet directors should be aware that Hy-tek files with splits available are required for consideration of new records. If non-traditional events are included in the meet format, they must be entered as "exhibition".

Committee Chairpersons for 2024-2025

The current Board (Bob Singer, Kathy Meany, Steve Atkins, Doug Koop, Karen Byer), approved the following committee chairpersons for 2024-2025:

Records and Top Ten – Dan Wall; Sanctions – Steve Atkins; Website/Facebook/Other Outreach Tim Sinnenberg and Dan Wall; Social Events – Marianne Hassan and Dan Wall; Open Water – Bob Singer; Coaches – Brian Yates; Group Fitness Workouts – Tammy Gummersheimer.

Officer Nominations for 2025-2026

The Nominations Committee, comprised of Deb Roberts, Mike Taetzsch, and Karin Skarka, presented the following slate of AD-LMSC officers for the 2025-2026 term: Chairperson – Kathy Meany; Vice Chairperson – Steve Atkins; Treasurer – Dale Seaton; Secretary – Marianne Hassan; Member Services – Tim Sinnenberg.

A vote by the membership for the nominated slate of officers will be conducted via Survey Monkey.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Karen Byer, Secretary

Chairperson Elect Kathy Meany reported that, when the vote on 2025-2026 officers via Survey Monkey closed on December 31, 2024, the vote was unanimous in favor of the nominated slate of officers.