

U.S. Masters Swimming House of Delegates - All Sessions USAS Convention-Jacksonville, FL September 12-14, 2019 Thursday, September 12, 2019 8:30am CT

President **Patty Miller** called the 2019 House of Delegates to order at 8:33am CT.

Patty recognized **Greg Danner**, Secretary, for the Secretary report. The number of certified delegates was 235 at the start of the session.

Patty introduced the Executive Committee to the House.

Patty named guests of the President for the duration of Convention per the Standing Rules: **Dawson Hughes, Susan Kuhlman, Bill Brenner, Kyle Deery, and Onshalee Promchitmart**. **Patty** introduced Parliamentarian, **Bill Tingley** and Clerk of the House, **Onshalee Promchitmart**.

Diana LaMar (SP) moved to accept the Standing Rules of the 2019 House of Delegates. **Britta O'Leary** (GA) second. **Moved, seconded, and accepted (MSA) to accept the Standing Rules.**

Patty welcomed attendees and provided a convention overview. She noted the timeline for House of Delegates sessions, zone meetings, committee meetings, the New Delegate Luncheon, workshops, elections, remembrances, awards, voting on rules/legislation/Long Distance. She highlighted the fact that the second HOD will include presentations on the unified fee concept, financial revenues/expenses, and an open forum to discuss legislation. Other notable events include a Sports Medicine presentation by "Dr. G" and a keynote address on Friday at noon by a graduate of Adult Learn to Swim (ALTS) along with Josh Davis, three-time Olympian. Friday night we celebrate the induction of five new Masters International Swimming Hall Of Fame (MISHOF) recipients: Rick Colella, Rowdy Gaines, Caroline Krattli, Willard Lamb, and Dr. Jim Miller. Saturday night is the Aquatic Sports Awards banquet. **Patty** noted that 2020 will mark the 50th anniversary of USMS; some innovations over the years include the website, addition of professional staff, online registration, the magazine, Coach Certification, ALTS, and College Club Swimming (CCS). Sponsored revenue has increased almost ten times since 2003. Due to the increased complexity of our budget, it points to the need for a coordinated holistic budget. **Patty** advocated for protecting our core product and rolling with the times by improving our budgetary process.

Patty recognized **Dawson Hughes** for the CEO's presentation. Dawson recapped big picture items that will add member benefits. The Gold Club initiative has led to over 225 gold clubs. We have now a fitness tracking app with swim.com. One of many new digital components is the online trial membership form, which has led to a database of 20,000 potential members. College Club Swimming is well established and continues to grow: regional championships have been added and, for the first time, their first national championship was held outside Georgia Tech. Dawson thanked the Open Water Task Force (OWTF) for their efforts in reviewing and developing ideas around improving Open Water. The USMS Fitness Series, started in February 2018, recently had its second largest event ever this summer of 2019. LMSC website templates are now an option, of which several LMSCs have already utilized: North Dakota and New Mexico. We continue to build relationships and cross promote with USA Swimming and USAT. Dawson named several key sponsors: Marriott, Golden Road Brewing, and Toyota. We have a new insurance/risk management partner providing adding benefits and they double as a sponsor: Insurance Office of America (IOA). A new online community will be coming soon for our members. Dawson noted the National Office has a reduced footprint in physical office space and there were some minor renovations. He stated his excitement for the 50th anniversary next year, with Spring Nationals being a signature event. Finally, he thanked the National Office staff for their efforts and the House of Delegates for their support.

Patty recognized **Erin Sullivan**, Chair of Elections Committee. **Erin** detailed the elections process for the HOD: she will list all slated candidates vetted by the committee, by position. Floor nominations will be accepted and must be made from the microphones. Floor nominees will be required to fully complete an elections packet and should submit it to the Secretary. For unopposed candidates, there will be a motion to elect by acclamation. Voting for contested positions will happen at HOD #3 immediately after the Meet the Candidates Forum. Running for President: Peter Guadagni. Running for VP of Administration: Chris Colburn and Skip Thompson. Running for VP

of Community Services: Chris Campbell and Jack Groselle. Running for VP of Local Operations: Ed Coates and Phil Dodson. Running for VP of Programs: Donn Livoni. Running for Secretary: Greg Danner. Running for Treasurer: Teddy Decker and Homer Lane. Each position was available for floor nominations. There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were summarily closed for each, one at a time. **MSA to elect all unopposed candidates by acclamation. Cheryl Gettelfinger moved. Dan Cox second. Peter Guadagni** elected as President, **Donn Livoni** elected as VP of Programs, and **Greg Danner** elected as Secretary. All candidates will appear during the Meet the Candidates Forum, followed by a vote for opposed positions. All elected candidates will begin office at the Sunday Board meeting.

Patty introduced **Jeanne Ensign**, Finance Committee Chair, who noted the Finance Committee will be meeting at 2 pm. and encouraged delegates to attend and ask questions. **Patty** recognized **Dan Cox**, who noted the Futures Task Force will be meeting on Friday at 10:45 am. **Patty** recognized **Chris Colburn**, who stated the new delegate luncheon is at 12:30 pm and delegates need to get a ticket from Onshalee.

The House recessed at 9:09am CT.

Thursday, September 12, 2019 4:30pm CT

President **Patty Miller** reconvened the House at 4:30pm CT.

Patty recognized **William Kolb**. He explained that there is an auction to benefit the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation (SSLF). The auction will be open until September 25.

Patty recognized **Dawson Hughes** for the Unified Fee Memo Presentation and Action. **Dawson** reminded everyone that the pre-convention packet contains the detail on the unified fee; he will present some of the benefits and answer questions during this HOD session. He started off showing an exchange on social media with a potential member that found our membership fees confusing due to regional variance, a common trend. The current fee structure variation presents challenges with future possibilities that we want to offer: multi-year, multi-type (championship, fitness, open water/tri, ALTS), bulk registration, automatic renewal, 12-month memberships, gift memberships and so on. A unified fee is a starting point to help us realize some of these options. **Patty** recognized a panel of: **Maddie Sibilica** (CCS, BOD member), **John King** (PC), and **Carrie Stolar** (BOD member, MN). Each offered various insights on why they feel that a unified fee would be beneficial to USMS. The memo presentation continued with **Dawson**, who indicated that USMS plans to cover convention hotel fees for delegates in perpetuity under the unified fee system. After an initial transition, all convention costs could potentially be covered at some point in the future. **Dawson** then fielded several questions from the HOD: regional subsidy possibilities, metrics on what percentage of members would see an increase, the impact of lower net revenue associated with multi-year membership, concerns about LMSCs having more money than they know what to do with, and potential risks involved. Based on an analysis of LMSC fees, he noted that an increased cost of membership has no correlation to decreased membership.

Patty recognized **Jeanne Ensign**, Finance Committee Chair, **Susan Kuhlman**, Chief Financial Officer for the Financial Presentation. **Jeanne** and **Susan** had a comprehensive slideshow on the 2020 budget overview. Portions included: financial oversight duties explanation, primary role of CEO & staff as management, a net assets graph, 2020 draft budget, and charts on how revenue is spent. They indicated this organization is financially healthy. Highlights included: membership, programs, events, marketing, and CCS. The budget session is during HOD #5 on Saturday. **Mike Abegg** inquired about marketing expenses. **Kyle Deery** indicated that contractors will be utilized, and we will have a presence at Olympic Trials.

Forum on pending rules, long distance, and legislation: **Patty** recognized **Richard Garza**, Legislation Committee Chair. **Richard** introduced L-8 (budget modernization process) and L-2 (decreasing the swimmer club transfer window from 60 days to 30 days) for discussion. There were numerous speakers on L-2, both in support and against this proposed legislation. **Patty** recognized **Charles Cockrell**, Rules Committee Chair. **Charles** identified a handful of the proposals, those he felt could best be served by an early discussion. R-1, R-2, R-3, R-4, R-8, R-9, R-12, R-15, and U-2 were all brought up and discussed to varying degrees during this session. **Patty** recognized **Ali Hall**, Long Distance Committee Chair, who brought up LD-13 for discussion. Also brought up for discussion from the floor was LD-1. **Bob Bruce** indicated the LD Committee has a meeting tomorrow at 8 am if anyone is interested in attending.

The House recessed at 6:38pm CT.

Friday, September 13, 2019 2:30pm CT

President **Patty Miller** reconvened the House at 2:32pm CT.

Patty recognized **Greg Danner**, Secretary, who indicated the number of certified delegates was 264 at the start of the session.

Patty recognized **Susan Ehringer**, who indicated what committees each VP position provides oversight for. She explained where the Treasurer role is documented in the rule book. Next, she introduced the Meet the Candidates Forum, moderated by **Jeff Commings**.

He began the Forum by introducing each of the candidates and they each were allowed up to three-minute introductions. He then excused the unopposed candidates, as they were elected yesterday. Jeff proceeded to run the question-and-answer session for candidates running for contested positions.

Susan then detailed the electronic voting process, which will be used for the contested elections. Additional detail was provided by **National Office staff** and elections were opened for a period of approximately 15 minutes. **MSA to close voting**.

Susan announced that **Chris Campbell** (VP of Community Services), **Chris Colburn** (VP of Administration), and **Teddy Decker** (Treasurer) were elected. There were no run-off elections.

The House was recessed at 5:05pm CT.

Saturday, September 14, 2019 8:00am CT

President **Patty Miller** reconvened the House at 8:04am CT.

Patty recognized **Greg Danner**, Secretary, who indicated the number of certified delegates was 266 at the start of the session.

Patty recognized the mic. **Sally Guthrie** indicated the Oceana Zone will meet at the end of the morning session. **Teddy Decker** indicated the Southwest Zone will also meet at the end of the session. **Patty** indicated that At-Large Director vacancies (from Board members being elected to another position), may have the remainder of that term filled by the Board of Directors.

Patty introduced the **Remembrance** of those USMS members who passed away in the previous year. Thanks to **Brian Albright** and the **National Office staff** for creating this year's remembrance video.

Awards:

- **Patty** recognized **Nadine Day**, who announced the **Captain Ransom J. Arthur Award winner, Jeff Roddin**.
- **Patty** recognized **Hill Carrow**, who announced the **Dorothy Donnelly Service Award** winners through his poems. The award winners are posted on the USMS website.
- **Patty** recognized **Kerry O'Brien**, who announced the **Kerry O'Brien Coaching Award** Winners. The award winners are posted on the USMS website.
- **Patty** recognized **Nancy Ridout**, who presented the **2019 June Krauser Communications Award** to **Alana Aubin** (NE).
- **Patty** recognized **Mary Jurey**, who presented the **2019 Fitness Award** to **Bill Meier** (NE).
- **Patty** recognized **Bob Bruce**, who presented the **2019 Open Water Service Award** to **Joel Wilson** (PC).
- **Patty** recognized **Jill Wright**, who presented the **2019 Long Distance National Championship Award** to **Bob Bruce** (OR).
- **Patty** recognized **Teri White**, who presented the new **2019 Officials Excellence Award** to **Ed Saltzman** (GA).

- **Patty** recognized **Jim Clemmons**, who presented the **2019 Championship Meets Award** to **Omar and Alina de Amas** (SP).
- **Patty** recognized **Megan Lassen**, who presented the **2019 Local Club of the Year Award** to **Texas Ford Aquatics Masters** (NT).
- **Patty** recognized **Bill Brenner**, who presented the **2019 Ted Haartz Staff Appreciation Award** to the **Volunteers Task Force**. The award winners are posted on the USMS website.

Patty thanked **Dawson** and the **National Office staff** for serving our members.

Rules Committee (**Charles Cockrell**): **Charles** recognized and thanked his committee members. **Charles** noted the total number of rules proposals and housekeeping changes. He recognized **Claire Letendre** for receiving a USA Swimming Service Award. **Charles** introduced the items recommended to be accepted by the House: R-4, R-5, R-6, R-7, R-10, R-11, HK-1, HK-2, HK-3, HK-4. No proposals were pulled. **MSA to adopt all the rules that were recommended by the Rules Committee. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.** Next, **Charles** introduced the items recommended as amended: R-2, R-9. No proposals were pulled. **MSA to adopt all the rules that were recommended as amended by the Rules Committee. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.** Next, **Charles** introduced the items not recommended: R-1, R-3, and R-8. R-8 was pulled. **MSF to adopt all the proposals not recommended and not pulled: R-1 and R-3. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.** A discussion then followed on relay age groups. Motion to adopt R-8. **Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.** A brief discussion followed. **MSF to adopt R-8.** Lastly, **Charles** introduced the USA Swimming (USA-S) Amendments that affect USMS. **MSA to table U-1 and U-2. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.**

MSA to change the agenda item from Legislation to Long Distance. Matt Miller moved. Charles Cockrell second.

Long Distance Committee (Rules) (**Ali Hall**): **Ali** read the list of recommended proposals: LD-3, LD-4, LD-5, LD-6. No items were pulled. **MSA to adopt all the LD rules that were recommended by the LD Committee. Matt Miller moved. Jim Davidson second.** **Ali** read the list of not recommended proposals: LD-2. It was not pulled. **MSF to adopt LD-2. Matt Miller moved. Jim Davidson second.** **Ali** read the list of housekeeping proposals. No items were pulled. **MSA to adopt all housekeeping items. Matt Miller moved. Jim Davidson second.**

The House was at ease from 9:45 am until 10:00 am CT.

Legislation Committee (**Richard Garza**): **Richard** introduced the items recommended: L-1, L-3, L-4, L-6, L-7, L-8, L-12. **MSA to adopt all the rules that were recommended by the Legislation Committee, except those pulled. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second. MS to adopt L-1. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second.** Discussion: One delegate spoke in opposition of L-1. Several delegates indicated the registrar name change reflects an accurate change in the current state of the role. **MSA to adopt L-1. MS for L-8 Phil Dodson moved. Kris Wingenroth second.** Discussion: Some delegates raised concerns about the final budget approval process being made by the BOD instead of the HOD. Other delegates noted the oversight process is thorough and authority over membership fees remains with the HOD. **Jeff Strahota call to question. Chris Campbell second. MSA call to question. MSA to adopt L-8. MSA to adopt recommended as amended: L-5, L-13. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second. MS to adopt not recommended: L-9, L-10, L-11. L-10 and L-11 pulled. MSF to adopt L-9. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second. MS to adopt L-10. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second.** Discussion: Several delegates spoke in favor of the formation of an ALTS task force in lieu of a committee. **MSF to adopt L-10. MS to adopt L-11. Kris Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second.** Discussion followed around proper terminology for the name of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee. **Chris Colburn call to question. Stephanie Gauzens second. MSA call to question. MSF to adopt L-11. Richard** introduced not recommended as amended: L-2. Pulled for discussion. **MS to adopt L-2. Wingenroth moved. Stephanie Gauzens second.** Discussion: various. **Chris Colburn call to question. Susan Ehringer second. MSA call to question. MSF to adopt L-2. Richard** introduced housekeeping: HK-1. Pulled. **MS to adopt HK-1. Stephanie Gauzens moved. Kris Wingenroth second. Mike Abegg made a motion to amend HK-1. Mike Abegg withdrew his motion. MSA to adopt HK-1.**

The House was recessed at 11:11 am CT.

Saturday, September 14, 2019 1:30pm CT

President **Patty Miller** reconvened the House at 1:31 pm CT.

Patty recognized **Hill Carrow** for an announcement. **Hill** indicated the USMS High Performance Camp at Greensboro in 2020 will be hold its final event for the 10th year. All are welcome.

Patty recognized **Charles Cockrell** again, because of USA-S rule changes made at convention. **MSA to untable from the morning session. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second. MSA to adopt U-1, recommended. Kathy Casey moved. Rand second. Motion to adopt U-2, which was not recommended. Kathy Casey moved. Rand Vaillancourt second.** Discussion: One non-voting delegate was out of order for attempting to speak. No other discussion. **Motion failed.**

Patty recognized **Kyle Deery** for a presentation on club tools and integration. **Kyle** fielded questions and comments after the presentation.

Patty Miller and **Peter Guadagni** provided information regarding the At-Large Director vacancies, noting that they are to be Board appointments. **Peter** requested interested parties complete a portion of the nomination packet. No nomination form is required. The purpose is to provide the Board with background information. Zone endorsements are suggested. **Chris Campbell** – point of information: make sure everyone knows where to retrieve the nomination packet.

Committee Reports:

LD Committee (**Ali Hall**): **MSA to accept the report of the Long Distance Committee, without objection.** No objections.

Open Water Committee (**Bob Bruce**): **MSA to accept the report of the Open Water Committee. Jeanne Ensign moved. Sarah Welch second.**

Coaches Committee (**Bob Jennings**): **MSA to accept the report of the Coaches Committee. MJ Caswell moved. Helen Naylor second.** Discussion: Hill Carrow asked about whether coaches can be grandfathered into the certification. Point of Information by **Chris Colburn**: Prior to the USMS coach certification program, coaches that completed the ASCA Masters track are listed as grandfathered on the USMS website.

Recognition & Awards (**Megan Lassen**): **MSA to accept the report of the Recognition & Awards Committee, without objection.** No objections.

Officials Committee (**Teri White**): **MSA to accept the report of the Officials Committee. Mike Abegg moved. Maddie Sibilgia second.**

Fitness Education Committee (**Mary Jurey**): **MSA to accept the report of the Fitness Education Committee. Ed Coates moved. Charis McCarthy second.**

History & Archives Committee (**Barbara Dunbar**): **MSA to accept the report of the History & Archives Committee. Meegan Wilson moved. Jayne St. Amour second.**

Sports Medicine & Science Committee (**Meg Carlson**): **MSA to accept the report of the Sports Medicine & Science Committee. Teddy Decker moved. Maddie Sibilgia second.**

Swimming Saves Lives Board of Trustees (**Jay DeFinis**): Played a short video that displayed images from the 2018-2019 programs. Explained the mission of SSL, grant selection criteria, and grant distribution history. 2019 highlights: Facebook gratitude campaign, silent auction, and giving levels. This is more than a committee; it's a cause. Discussion: **Sandi Rousseau** suggested that we add an explanation during the registration process to pitch the cause. **Jay** responded that it is in the works.

Records & Tabulation Committee (**MJ Caswell**): **Motion to accept the report of the Records & Tabulation Committee without objection.** No objections.

Registration Committee (**Susan Ehringer**): Detailed the committee's plan to address the change of the committee based on how the role of the Registrar has changed to Membership Coordinator. **MSA to accept the report of the Registration Committee, without objection.** No objections.

LMSC Development Committee (**Michael Moore**): **MSA to accept the report of the LMSC Development Committee, without objection.** No objections.

Championship Committee (**Jim Clemmons**). One action item for the HOD. Spring SCY Nationals 2021 awarded to Greensboro, NC. Summer LCM Nationals 2021 awarded to Spire Institute in Geneva, Ohio. **MSA to approve the NQT computation procedures, removing 2016 data, adding 2019 data.** **Erin Moro** moved. **Rob Heath** second. **MSA to accept the reports of the Championship Committee.** **Erin Moro** moved. **Rob Heath** second.

Legislation (**Richard Garza**): **Entertain a resolution to accept the report of the Legislation Committee, without objection.** No objections.

Diversity & Inclusion Committee (**Sarah Welch**): **Entertain a resolution without objection to accept the report of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee.** No objections.

Rules (Charles Cockrell): Described various policy updates. Request posting of digital rule books from the History & Archives Committee. **Entertain a resolution to accept the report of the Rules Committee without objection.** No objections.

Budget (**Jeanne Ensign**): **Jeanne Ensign** and **Susan Kuhlman** presented the proposed Budget. **Jeanne** described the process that will be followed. **Leo Letendre** - Point of Information: Asked what the "LMSC contribution" line item represents. **Patty** clarified that this is where funding comes back from LMSC unified fee early adopters. **Motion to approve the 2020 budget, as recommended by the Board of Directors, with a net ordinary loss of \$132,821.** **Teddy Decker** moved. **Barbara Deshler** second. Discussion: **Jeanne** read through each line item and 4335 was the only one pulled for a brief discussion. **MSA to accept line item 4335: recognition fee.** **Teddy Decker** moved. **Barbara Deshler** second. **Motion on the floor to approve full budget: approved.**

MSA to suspend the rules for the next portion of the meeting. **Bill Tingley** moved. **Maddie Sibia** second.

Patty provided closing remarks on her final term and encouraged feedback following the adjournment of the session. She applauded Dawson for having ideas to make changes for the better and handling the challenge of the transition from our first CEO. **Patty** noted she was astounded by the thought and devotion of the Board.

A feedback session followed where delegates offered ideas on ways to improve the convention.

MSA for adjournment sine die. **Bill Tingley** moved. **Jeff Strahota** second.

MSA to adjourn the 2019 House of Delegates of U.S. Masters Swimming.

The House concluded its business at 4:15pm CT.

Respectfully Submitted, Greg Danner, USMS Secretary 2018-19