

## 1998 Planning Committee Minutes

October 1, 1998

### Action Items

1. USMS should establish a Sports Drug policy. Further, the Sports Medicine Committee should be directed to develop the specific details of said policy.
2. The On-Line Computer Committee should be directed to study the issue of changing technology and how it will affect USMS business, particularly in the area of member privacy.
3. The Executive Secretary is to be a repository for any and all information developed by various groups as that information pertains to the construction costs and expected operating costs and expected usage for a new facility. The purpose is to make this information readily available as a research source to any interested Masters group.
4. The Coaches Committee should expand the "Coach Mentor" program to include a "road show" extolling the virtues of Masters Swimming to managers of those facilities which are identified as not having a Masters Swimming program. Further, that all information developed by the Coaches Committee for this purpose (brochures, articles, "How-to" lists, etc.) should be provided to the On-Line Computer Committee to be posted on the USMS Web Site to be available to and assist those facility managers who do not receive a direct visit.

### Attendance

Number of Committee Present: 7      Number of Committee Absent: 6

Total number of Delegates attending the meeting: 25

## MINUTES

### OLD BUSINESS

- I. Status of Executive Director position - The original proposal unanimously passed last year by this committee after two years of study was to hire an Executive Director. The position has been significantly diluted. A new proposal for this position is forthcoming from the USMS Board of Directors.
- II. Status of Masters Altitude Training Camps - This project was addressed first in March 1997. Coach Judy Bonning ran the first in Colorado Springs, with 4 coaches and 20 swimmers, at a cost less than \$200 plus transportation. There was no access to the labs or to the flume during that 3 1/2-day camp. The next camp is scheduled for February 1999. Price has gone up to \$1300 plus transportation for a 3-day camp. The committee noted a concern about the increased cost. Participants will be selected by the Coaches Committee from applicants who have made the National Championship Qualifying Standards.
- III. Status of the USMS Foundation - The Foundation is now operational, under the direction of Doug Church. Funds received to date total about \$4000.

### NEW BUSINESS

- I. Each of the committee's members was assigned to cover one of the "Mastering Your Destiny...2000 and Beyond" breakout groups. The members briefly outlined the high points from each discussion.
- II. There was discussion about the function of this committee. Members agreed that the committee should be the visionaries of the organization, trying to plan in general terms for the future. Over the next year the committee will be working to propose a "general plan," which, if approved by the House of Delegates next year, would be the blueprint for specific projects to be undertaken (or continued) by the various Standing Committees.

- III. The committee discussed the potential for performance-enhancing drug abuse in Masters, and made the following recommendation:  
**USMS should establish a Sports Drug policy. Further, the Sports Medicine Committee should be directed to develop the specific details of said policy.**  
The committee believes that we should not wait until this is an obvious problem before addressing the possibility that the problem may exist, now or in the future.
- IV. There was discussion regarding the rapidly changing world of information technology. The committee recommends that:  
**The On-Line Computer Committee be directed to study the issue of changing technology and how it will affect USMS business, particularly in the area of member privacy.**
- V. One member in the audience raised a question regarding the construction of new aquatic facilities. Specifically, he mentioned the lack of research resources to assist in understanding the costs of such projects, saying that he would have found it helpful to talk to others who have gone through the process, but did not know where to turn. After additional the discussion, the committee made the following recommendation:  
**The Executive Secretary is to be a repository for any and all information developed by various groups as that information pertains to the construction costs and expected operating costs and expected usage for a new facility. The purpose is to make this information readily available as a research source to any interested Masters group.**
- VI. Another audience member raised the issue of existing facilities with no Masters programs. Following additional discussion of this topic, the committee made the following recommendation:  
**The Coaches Committee should expand the "Coach Mentor" program to include a "road show" extolling the virtues of Masters Swimming to managers of those facilities which are identified as not having a Masters Swimming program. Further, that all information developed by the Coaches Committee for this purpose (brochures, articles, "How-to" lists, etc.) should be provided to the On-Line Computer Committee to be posted on the USMS Web Site to be available to and assist those facility managers who do not receive a direct visit.**
- VII. At the conclusion of the meeting the committee discussed the emergence of other groups offering alternative adult swimming competitions, such as dual meet leagues and the USS Alumni meet(s). Over the next year committee members will discuss whether these activities will pose a possible conflict with USMS activities and programs.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Tasks for the upcoming year:

1. Prepare a General Plan for discussion at the 1999 House of Delegates meeting.
2. Prepare a report on the potential of conflicts with alternative adult swimming competitions.