

2024 U.S. Masters Swimming Annual Meeting — Virtual

Committee Name:	Southwest Zone	Session #:	N/A		
Committee Chair:	Arlette Godges, Southwest Zone Chair	Vice Chair:	N/A		
Minutes recorded by:	Lucila Davies, SPMS	Date/time of meeting:	August 28, 2024, 8:00 PM EDT (5:00 PM PDT)		

Actions Requiring Approval by the HOD:

NONE

Motions Passed:

1. MSA the 2023 Southwest Zone Annual Meeting minutes:
 - a. Motion by Bex Friedberg, seconded by Ken Brisbin, and approved.

Number of zone members present: 22	Absent: 2	Number of other delegates present: 16
Zone members present: Alina de Armas, Alta Stengel, Anita Cole, SPMS, Arlette Godges (Zone Chair), Beata Konopka, Bex Friedberg, Cory Nguyen, Diana LaMar, Ed Coates (USMS President), Fiona Duncan, Gini Baker, Jennifer Cooper, Jessica Reilly, Judy Gillies, Kathy Gallagher, Marnie Whitley, Marilyn Fink, Mary Hull, Robin Smith, Rome Yount, Ken Brisbin (VP Community Services), Virgil Chancy Zone Members Absent: Jeff Commings, Barbara Dunbar		

Minutes

The virtual meeting was called to order at 8:01 PM EDT (5:01 PM PDT)

1. Arizona LMSC Report, Judy Gillies, Chair
 - a. Current Membership: Just under 1,000 members.
 - b. Long Course Events: No state long course meets held in the past two years, and no bids have been submitted.
 - c. Short Course Championships: The state short course championships were hosted by Saddlebrook.
 - d. Open Water Events: No open water events were held this year.
 - e. Relay Applications: A board meeting was held, and a notice was sent out for members to apply for the relay team. The following members applied: Barb Sloan, Liz Hobbs, Sam Matroni, and Marnie Whitney.
 - f. USMS Annual Meeting Attendance: The following members will attend the USMS Annual Meeting: Barb Sloan, Kathy Gallagher, Rome Yount, Judy Baker, Judy Gillies, and Jeff Commings.
 - g. Announcements:
 - i. The Ron Johnson Short Course Meters Meet date has been changed to October 26-27, 2024, at ASU.
 - ii. Distance Meets are scheduled for February, with the Dolphins of the Desert hosting a meet on March 25th, and another meet in Sedona in May.
 - iii. Arizona won the bid to host the College Club Swimming Nationals at Skyline Pool during the last weekend of March.
 - iv. Board Elections will be held in the fall for President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer positions.
2. New Mexico LMSC Report, Bex Friedberg, Co-chair
 - a. National Coaches Clinic Attendance: Two coaches, one from El Paso Masters and one from Santa Fe Masters, have been subsidized to attend the National Coaches Clinic (NCC).
 - b. Sanctioned Events: No referees or officials have been provided, and no sanctioned events have been held this year.
 - c. Open Water Swim Clinics: Three open water swim clinics were planned, but none were successfully held.
 - d. USMS Event Participation: There has been significant participation in USMS-sanctioned events in the Southwest.
 - e. In Memoriam: Bill Chalavarious, a longtime member, passed away this year.
 - f. New Delegate: Emily Clarke has been appointed as a new delegate.
3. San Diego-Imperial (SI) LMSC Report, Marilyn Fink, Treasurer:
 - a. Membership: Membership has returned to pre-2020 numbers and is expected to either grow or maintain at this level next year.

- b. Volunteer Recruitment: The LMSC is actively seeking volunteers to host more events and encourage participation. There is a need for more pools that meet sanctioning and budgeting requirements.
 - c. Financial Status: While there are expected deficits due to spending on equipment and other expenditures, the LMSC remains financially solvent and secure.
 - d. Challenges: Swimming activities have been impacted by a lifeguard shortage, increased costs, and limited pool availability. During the summer, only 12 pools were open in the city of San Diego, with even fewer available during the off-season.
 - e. USMS Club Registration: The SI LMSC has continued to subsidize USMS club registration renewals.
 - f. Sanctioned Meets: Since the last USMS Annual Meeting, three one-day sanctioned meets were hosted: a short course meters meet, a short course yards meet, and a long course meter meet.
 - g. Upcoming Meets: A short course meters meet is scheduled for October at Alga Norte Aquatic Center.
 - h. Zone Championships: At this time, there are no plans to host any zone championship meets in 2025.
4. Southern Pacific Masters Swimming (SPMS) LMSC Report, Ken Brisbin, Chair:
- a. Current Membership: Our current membership stands at 4,266, which is 123 athletes less compared to the same time last year.
 - b. Registered Clubs: We have 85 registered clubs this year, an increase from 83 clubs last year.
 - c. Swim Meets: So far, we have sanctioned, dual-sanctioned, or recognized 17 pool meets, with 5 more in the planning stages for this year.
 - d. Open Water Events: We have sanctioned two open water events so far, with two more in the works for this year.
 - e. USMS Relay and NCC Participation: We are in the process of sending and funding athletes for the USMS Relay and NCC, with details to be finalized.
 - f. Marketing Initiatives: This month, 15 clubs are participating in the "Try Masters Swimming" program. We continue to offer marketing funds to teams as needed and provide co-branded caps.
 - g. Coaches Corner: Our Coaches Chair has initiated Zoom calls to facilitate the exchange of ideas, discuss challenges, upcoming events, and more.
 - h. Grown Up Swimming (GUS) Program: So far, three meets have been conducted under the GUS program, with the championship meet scheduled to take place in Wollett. A total of 55 individuals have signed up for the program, of which 39 are USMS members.
 - i. Upcoming Events: On November 9th, SPMS will host a USMS Coaches Clinic and Certification Course. Following that, on November 10th, our LMSC Annual Meeting will take place. The meeting will feature stroke clinics conducted by recent graduates, a guest speaker, food, and our standard yearly business meeting.
 - j. Financial Status: SPMS remains financially stable. This year, as well as last year, we have awarded more funds to teams, hosts, and members than we have taken in. We will continue to use our funds to support our 4,000 members.

New Business:

1. Motion to Discontinue the Rotating of Zone Championship Hosting Among LMSCs
 - a. MSA to discontinue the practice of rotating Zone Championship hosting duties (for short course yards, long course meters, short course meters, and open water events) among the Local Masters Swimming Committees (LMSCs) in the Southwest Zone.
 - i. Motion by Arlette Godges, seconded by Ken Brisbin, and approved unanimously.
2. Discussion: Hosting Zone Championship Meets for 2025
 - a. Volunteer LMSCs are needed to host the Zone Championship events for 2025:
 - i. Short Course Meters and Short Course Yards: Arizona LMSC has volunteered to host these meets.
 - ii. Long Course Meters: It was proposed that Mark Moore, representing Southern Pacific LMSC, be asked to host the Long Course Meters Championship.
 - iii. Open Water: A host for the Open Water Championship is still needed.
3. How Can the Zone Chair Better Serve the LMSCs?
 - a. Quarterly Meetings via Zoom: The group discussed the possibility of holding quarterly Zoom meetings to enhance communication and support among LMSCs. This has been done before and was viewed as beneficial.
 - b. Improved Email Communication: A recommendation was made to streamline email communication, ensuring important updates are shared effectively with LMSC Chairs.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

None

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM EDT (5:45 PM PDT)
