

USMS CONVENTION – DALLAS, TEXAS

Minutes of the House of Delegates, September 12-14, 2002

Note: The committee minutes are posted on the USMS web site and can be obtained from the National Office. MSA = moved, seconded and approved.

The meeting of the House of Delegates (HOD) was called to order by President James Miller at 8:45 AM on Thursday, September 12, 2002.

President Miller welcomed the delegates and asked the Executive Committee introduce themselves.

Secretary Sally Dillon called the roll.

Parliamentarian Jim Wheeler reviewed convention procedures and Robert's Rules of Order.

The Zone Committee's Election Chair, Melissa Rinker, formally put into nomination Lynn Hazlewood for Zone Chair. There being no nominations from the floor, Lynn was elected for the position by acclamation.

Vice President Scott Rabalais presented the newly proposed mission statement: TO PROMOTE SWIMMING FOR LIFE AMONG ADULTS IN THE UNITED STATES. "For life" would have a "dual" meaning and the goal would be to allow our mission statement to be easily marketed. "Swimming for Life" would be used as a tag line. Suggestions from the floor included shortening it to "Swimming for Life" while others were concerned that the proposed mission left off vital elements such as a reference to fitness. It was noted that mission statements and marketing tag lines are very different; the mission statement should include more details. Brevity is good, clarity is better. Many comments were expressed both in favor and against. A "sense of the house" was taken, the vote was mixed, and the EC will discuss the issue further.

Jim Miller explained the reorganization of convention. He expressed a goal to share ideas and perspectives and to come to conclusions that are best for our organization. The free time to interact and exchange ideas has disappeared as the corporation has grown in recent years and this year's objective is to group the committees to encourage interaction. The overall theme of "teaming together" gives each group a topic to focus on. The committees will have time to do some business (ratifying decisions and handling emergencies that have come up) but a good amount of time should be spent discussing the teaming together "theme".

Some of the meetings have been scheduled "unopposed" so all of the delegates may attend. The bids for Championships will be held differently this year and the meeting when they are screened will be unopposed so everyone can attend. There will be no formal bid presentation otherwise and acceptance of the Championship Committee's report will approve the sites for the next National Championships. Numerous concerns were expressed including the concern that delegates will need to attend more than one meeting at the same time.

Professional Management Guidelines (PMG): Hugh Moore presented the proposal from the PMG Task Force. Discussion ensued, particularly involving contractors going "over budget". It was moved and seconded that we amend the version published in the convention packet as follows:

- PMG 4d: Any employee or subcontractor receiving compensation may still apply for budgeted expense per section . . . terms of the applicable contract.
- PMG 4c: Add second sentence, "Such compensation shall be a flat rate amount".

It was noted that there is a difference in compensation and expenses. After further discussion the motion was withdrawn. It was MSA to table the adoption of the PMG until language can be proposed that will resolve the issues. The HOD will reconvene at 8:30 PM for the purpose of further discussing the PMG.

Convention Committee: Michael Heather presented the Convention Committee report and emphasized the action items. Mike mentioned that USA-Swimming is considering a bi-annual convention. The rules committee will not recommend the change but it is something we will need to watch. He was asked if we spent a lot of extra money in Louisville last year when we had our own convention. In actuality, we were under budget in spite of the fact that we had some expenses in Detroit. A suggestion was made that we consider having our

own convention in the future to save costs but no decision was made. Michael also announced that SPMA has lost use of the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool and he asked for support in letter writing, etc. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Zone Committee: Wayne McCauley presented the Zone Committee report. It was MSA to send Action Item 3, the FOG proposal, directly to the Finance Committee. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

David Yorczyk Award: On behalf of Manny Sanguily, Phil Whitten presented the David Yorczyk award to June Krauser for the most outstanding performance in the 400 IM in 2002. June obliterated both the yard and meters records this year.

It was MSA to recess the HOD at 10:50 AM.

The HOD reconvened at 8:30 PM on Thursday, September 12.

It was MSA to remove the Professional Management Guidelines issue from the table and Hugh Moore presented the six friendly amendments that had been proposed.

1. Renumber the sections in PMG after Section II due to an error in numbering.
2. PMG-4.B – new wording: Compensation for employees is defined as payment other than reimbursed expenses per the process set forth in FOG Part IV.
3. PMG-4.D – An employee or independent contractor to be compensated may still apply for reimbursement of budgeted expenses per the process set forth in FOG Part IV, provided such reimbursement does not conflict with the express terms of the applicable contract (see Section VI below).
4. PMG-6 add second sentence - The method used to document the terms of agreement with employees and independent contractors shall be determined by the USMS Legal Counsel and approved by the Executive Committee. Prior to finalizing the agreement, Legal Counsel shall consult with the chair of the Finance Committee to determine compliance with approved budget.
5. PMG-7.b delete second sentence and add a final sentence - The USMS Executive Committee, or its designee, shall develop and maintain descriptions of responsibilities and work to be performed by independent contractors. The descriptions shall be used during the selection process and during performance reviews. Job descriptions shall be available to any USMS member on request.
6. Housekeeping – change the term “section” to “part” whenever it refers in FOG.

It was MSA to approve the Professional Management Guidelines as amended.

Jack Geoghegan explained to the House that the current Webmaster and SWIM Magazine Editor contracts expire on December 31, 2002. He expressed a concern that if we go to a bid process for the positions, there is not adequate time to meet the deadlines for SWIM Magazine or other written publications according to PMG IV.D that we just approved. Discussion ensued about the logistics of advertising in the magazines as well as trade publications. Bill Volckening stated that we could make the deadline for SWIM if we acted quickly. Many opinions were expressed and Jack restated that, in his opinion, we have two alternatives – waive the provision of notice or waive the bidding process. Patty Powis pointed out that under the terms of PMG only the Board of Directors could approve waiving the bidding process.

It was moved and seconded that we reconsider PMG 5, specifically item D. Various concerns were expressed and the procedures for selecting the webmaster and SWIM Editor were debated. It was noted that the HOD will have an opportunity to approve or disapprove the changes to the positions at this convention and they need to be prepared to deal with filling those positions under our present guidelines. Hugh Moore pointed out that there are two methods of selecting sub contractors- either through an RFP or through an interview process. It was suggested that the current contracts be extended for a few additional months but it was also noted that the individuals currently holding the positions have been given six-month extensions twice already. A concern was expressed that our two contractors would not extend until March and a proper interview process could not be followed. Patty pointed out that according to PMG 3, the bidding process is not actually appropriate for the two positions since they already exist. After further discussion the motion was defeated.

It was MSA to recess the HOD at 9:18 PM

The House of Delegates reconvened at 4:35 PM on Friday, September 13.

President Jim Miller noted that when looking at the minutes of the committees, special attention should be paid to the action items. Aside from those items having anything to do with finance, when we accept the minutes of the committee, we accept the action items. Action items may be pulled for discussion prior to acceptance of the report and they can be voted upon individually.

Jim also discussed the sequence of events that took place in the previous HOD meeting that dealt with Championship Bids (see committee minutes). The Executive Committee wanted the HOD to see the process of interviewing those organizations that are bidding for national championships and to have a voice in the process while the bids are being reviewed. Secondly, the EC wanted the HOD to see and understand how the Championship Committee votes on the sites. Two options were given: a) accept the suggestion of the Championship Committee (or not) or b) request to vote individually as you have in the past. It is the firm commitment of this EC that if an individual vote is requested and seconded that the original voting process would always be honored. The HOD should be part of the process by which the national championship vendors are selected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

FINA Liaison/ISHOF: June Krauser's report was in the convention packet. She noted that Riccione, Italy has been awarded the 2004 FINA World Championships. She also mentioned the Swimming Hall of Fame display in our meeting hall. The International "Masters" Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) has been created and the first induction will be on January 11, 2003. The Swimming Hall of Fame is considering a move and Pampano Beach will have a meeting soon to make a final decision as to whether the move will be to their city. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

USAS: Jim Miller reported that Mel Goldstein has again been elected Treasurer of USAS. He expects to have more to report later in the convention.

USMS Liaison to USA-Swimming: Ted Haartz's report was in the convention packet. He added that USA-S is having an election of officers. New officers will invariably affect the governance study and the proposed dues increase. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

YMCA Liaison: Stu Marvin's report was in the convention packet. He mentioned that there is still no date set for the 2004 Championship. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

Controller: Cathy Pennington's report was in the convention packet. She explained the role of the controller – she is a "one person" accounting department. Since publishing the report in the convention packet, we have received a good report from the external auditors with no adjustments. Cathy noted that the convention account number, 5300, will be needed when submitting expenses for lodging and transportation to Convention Chair, Mike Heather. It was MSA to accept the controller's report.

Internal Auditor: Jeanne Ensign noted that she did not provide a report in the packet because she reports directly to the Finance Committee. She also noted that her duties as described in the rule book do not apply now that we have an outside auditor. In the coming year she will develop an audit plan and will request input from the committees. Jeanne will look at the dollars and also the process. It was MSA to accept the Internal Auditor's report.

Senior Games Liaison: Scott Rabalais' report was in the convention packet. He mentioned that in an effort to improve the Senior Games experience at all levels, he has begun discussion with the organization in order to provide information and to improve the quality of the events. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

USOC Liaison: Hill Carrow's report was in the convention packet. He added that Nancy Ridout is awaiting information on the dates for the USOC High Altitude Training Camp. A meeting with USOC representatives

was canceled but he expects to visit with the new CEO in December in North Carolina. There are three representatives from the USOC at this convention and Hill has had an opportunity to speak to them all. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

Search Committee: Scott Rabalais' report on the Search Committee was in the convention packet. The goal of the committee was to define the positions of Webmaster and SWIM Magazine Editor and to determine an appropriate compensation. Both positions have changed significantly in recent years. It was also decided that the webmaster be more appropriately titled the Webmaster-Information Technology Director. Scott noted that he needed to add an action item to his report as follows: "MSA to accept the revision of job descriptions for our webmaster and SWIM Editor". It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Database Task Force: Jim Miller reported that the Database Task Force had an informational meeting and that the work of the Database Committee and the actions that were done was reviewed. He stated that the only action items were the issues surrounding the funding; they will appear under finance. Everything else was in the convention packet. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Block #1 Teaming together . . . to bring out the best!

Block #1 report: Jim Miller reviewed the action items that will be common for all five Blocks: Efforts should be made to work together with the other committees within the Block. The task for the coming year is for the committees to incorporate the ideas generated into their committee business. It was MSA to accept Block #1's report.

Coaches Committee: Michael Collins reported that although the minutes contained no action items, it doesn't mean they didn't accomplish anything – they've taken care of business all year! Eric Neilsen will handle the "Ask the Coach" section for SWIM Magazine. The new Snooper Coordinator will be Lee Carlson. Michael thanked Paul Windrath for the many years he coordinated the Snooper program. The committee plans to bring the various camps and clinics into one program so they are better controlled. Coaches are encouraged to apply for being an "on line" coach and also a coach at the International meets. The committee will assign someone to be on each USMS committee's Email list so they can stay informed. Dialog will continue regarding certification of coaches. It was MSA to accept the committee's report. (The USMS Coach of the Year Award was presented later at the USAS banquet and James Montgomery was the recipient.)

International Committee: Phil Whitten highlighted the committee's minutes. A plan is underway to bid for the Pan Pac meet in 2005. Between 1000 and 2000 participants would be expected but it hasn't been decided if the meet would be long or short course. Maui, Stanford, Irvine, Mesa, AZ and possibly Indianapolis have been mentioned as locations for the meet. Phil considers the Pan Pacs a valuable tradition but the meet could also be a dress rehearsal for the 2006 World Championships. US is the birthplace of Masters Swimming and it is also the largest National Governing Body (NGB). The last time the Worlds were held in America was 1992. The committee doesn't underestimate the enormity of the task and recognizes it will involve the other governing bodies. Stanford, Irvine, Indianapolis, Mesa are being considered. They have also decided that as a bare minimum we would establish liaisons with various committees (Championship, Coaches, Officials, Finance, Communication, Marketing, Long Distance, Safety, Planning and Sports Medicine). Various other committees would need to be established. 7000 to 9000 participants might attend which would make it the biggest meet in history and we would want it to be the best. A lot of enthusiasm has been generated and the committee recognizes that it will take a concerted effort by everyone. Phil entertained various questions about the application process and fees. A \$25,000 non-refundable application fee will be required if and when USMS applies to host the event. It is anticipated that there would not be a LC National Championship that summer but a final decision is some years away. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Officials Committee: David Diehl highlighted the action items in his report. The major project for the year was to pass a USMS Certification Procedure for officials. Tom Boak complimented him on his efforts in working with USA-S officials to develop the procedures. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Block #2 Teaming together . . . to take care of business!

Block #2: Jim Miller reviewed the action items (see Block #1). It was MSA to accept Block #2's report.

Finance Committee: (1st report) Tom Boak will report on committee business when he reports on the budget.

Ad-hoc Legal Counselors Committee: Patty Powis reported that much of the committee's time was spent discussing how they can be of assistance to Legal Counsel and also as a resource for the committees. The committee has a specific need for attorneys who have expertise in information technology (privacy issues, intellectual property law, copyright, procurement of Internet services, and electronic signatures). Interested individuals should contact her. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Legislation Committee: Rob Copeland mentioned the loss of Bill Earley, a "dear" member of the committee, and how greatly he will be missed. Marilyn Fink has been appointed to fill Bill's spot on the committee. Rob reviewed the number of "task forces" that have been formed this past year to deal with various issues: 1) BOD and Governance-move forward this coming year with this plan, 2) Athlete's Rights – Part 4 of the Rule Book is being looked at to make the section better, 3) Finance Committee – issues and policies that need to be part of the governance, and 4) LMSC Handbook – needs to be in compliance with our Code.

Rob reviewed the four action items including the Legislative proposals that they deemed "emergency" and noted that L-2 should have been L-4 (the real L-2 is a housekeeping item). Action item #1 was pulled. A concern was expressed that the Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG) are made available to delegates in the pre-convention packet but not contained in the Rule Book. The Finance Committee asked to be consulted before an action is taken. It was MSA to accept the committees report with the exception of Action Items #1 and #4 (Legislative proposals).

Further discussion on #1 ensued. Rob agreed to change the item to read "consider including" Financial Operating Guidelines. It was moved and seconded to approve Action Item #1. The motion was defeated.

Legislative proposals – recommended for adoption:

Rob pointed out that six of the proposals were considered "housekeeping" changes. L-2 was "pulled". It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee for the five other housekeeping proposals.

L-2 discussion concerned registering swimmers for the current year after the November 1 cut-off date. In some situations that can be necessary. Following discussion, it was MSA to table the discussion until changes in the wording could be proposed.

Rob continued discussion with the proposals that were recommended by the Legislation Committee.

L-4: Amendments were suggested, discussed and eventually withdrawn. Regarding the intention of L-4, a question was raised as to why this information would be in our Code when it is, in fact, in the USA-S Policies. Others suggested that if we are going to have classes of membership, they belong in the Rule Book. Are we intending to take in new members? Is this proposal, in fact, an emergency? President Miller answered these questions by stating that USAS and FINA have asked us whether we plan to have a relationship with other adult swimming organizations. The effort is to have a method of recognition that will not be discriminatory in nature. There being no further discussion, it was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee.

L-8: Rob briefly explained the need for the proposal. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee.

It was MSA to remove L-2 from the table. An amendment to the original language was proposed: "Swimmers applying for registration for the following year on or after November 1 shall be issued a registration card valid from the date issued through December 31 of the following year". After some discussion a friendly amendment was made to change "from the date issued" to "from the registration date". It was MSA to approve the amendment. A question was asked as to whether L-2 is no longer housekeeping and whether it is an emergency. The Legislation Committee took a quick poll of its members and determined it was, in fact, an emergency proposal. It was MSA to approve L-2 as amended.

Planning Committee: Betsy Durrant mentioned the survey that was conducted the past year. The results of the survey have motivated the committee to propose the action items found in their minutes. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Jim Miller commented that we were approaching our time of adjournment and there would not be enough time to complete the scheduled reports. Rich Burns offered to free up some of the time on Saturday morning that was intended for a Marketing presentation. In order to avoid conflict with a Finance Committee meeting, the HOD will meet at 10:45 in the morning with the Marketing presentation first on the agenda.

Block #3 Teaming together . . . to spread the word!

Block #3: Jim Miller reviewed the action items (see Block #1) and it was MSA to accept Block #3's report.

Publications Committee: Meg Smath announced that the winner of the Rule Book cover design is Alison Moore of Hillsboro, OR. The committee will dedicate the 2003 Rule Book to Tom Boak. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Registration Committee: Anna Lea Roof announced that the committee has accepted a Permanent Swimmer ID and the implement date is anticipated to be November 1, 2002. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Announcements – North Texas will be hosting a social tonight in the hospitality suite at 8:00 PM. The HOD will meet at 10:45 AM.

Legal Counsel, Jack Geoghegan, announced that the Ransom Arthur Committee would be meeting during the social hour. He also wanted the new delegates to know that USMS is the defending champion in Australian Football so they should be prepared to defend our record Saturday night.

It was MSA to recess at 6:45 PM

The House of Delegates reconvened at 10:45 AM on Saturday, September 14.

Marketing Committee: Rich Burns introduced Aimee Fitzgerald, our contracted Public Relations Consultant. He mentioned that she has demonstrated a passion for our project. Aimee shared her experience in joining Masters Swimming and Rich shared the experience they have had this past year while "initiating" Aimee to our organization. Aimee felt a huge amount of pressure knowing that results often don't appear for six to nine months. To her surprise, she started seeing results in three months with the USMS project. The main target has been the editorial media. It was important to explain Masters swimming clearly so the first rule was to develop "key messages". The editorial media requires specific information on what swimming can do for you. Aimee is receiving frequent inquiries from magazines. 60-70 articles have been tracked that have published this past year. Help is needed for keeping track of the articles that are being written and story ideas are needed as well. Aimee can be contacted through the USMS web site "news room". Photographs are needed; preferably photo files of pictures that can be used (minimum 600 dpi in jpeg format).

Nancy Ridout mentioned that, although USMS has a lot of expertise in its organization, none of the efforts in the past have made the strides that Aimee has made in just nine months. It goes to show that getting a professional and the right person with the right attributes and qualifications to do the job is a really good idea. Aimee knows where to go, who to contact, and how to contact them. It has made a huge difference.

Aimee emphasized the importance of defining USMS. She distributed two pages of "standard paragraphs" and "key messages" for delegates to take back to their LMSCs.

Rich reported on other committee issues that are in his report. Some discussion took place regarding the action item in the Marketing report that specifies that sponsors who contribute a minimum of \$50,000 may have access to USMS's list of members with the provision that there be no telephonic contact. Rich amended the

item to be \$100,000. After discussion of the pros and cons, and after getting a sense of the house, Rich withdrew the item. It was MSA to accept the committee's report with the deletion of Action Item #2.

Communications Committee: Hugh Moore recognized Executive Secretary Tracy Grilli, Webmaster Jim Matysek, and SWIM Editor Bill Volckening for their efforts and success in being the "backbone" of USMS communications. Hugh reviewed the action items listed in his report. It was noted that, if accepted, the last action item would need to be ratified by the BOD when they meet at the conclusion of the HOD meeting later in the day.

Legal Counsel, Patty Powis, interjected a "point of information" that the language being used might be inconsistent with the Webmaster's status as an employee or independent contractor. It was MSA to amend the 2nd action item to read: "The Communications Committee recommends that the services requested of the Webmaster be expanded and that they include project administration of the database project".

Expressed concerns included the time frame for the contracts, how the positions would be solicited and filled, and how long the terms would be. Hugh responded that the third proposal was intended to be a one-time change that would be effective as long as the employee/contractor remains in the position.

The 1st and 3rd recommendations in the action item box were "pulled". It was MSA to accept the committee's report with the exception of the pulled items.

Discussion of the first recommendation (that the webmaster position be expanded to include project administration of the database project) was held. Concerns were expressed that the skills for the webmaster are not the same skills that we want for the database project leader, it doesn't make sense to look for a permanent webmaster who has the skills for a temporary project such as the database project, and we are losing checks and balances. In response to the question "why is this a contractor position and not an employee when we're asking them to be full time", Patty Powis answered that they are not necessarily going to be full time but the committee is recognizing that the amount of work that is required is going to be a greater amount of work. It was MSA to approve the first action item.

Discussion on the third recommendation (that an alternate bidding process be approved and that the current webmaster and editor be selected without an application and interview process) was held. A concern was expressed as to whether this was a proper thing to do. The HOD was reminded that two years ago, when we decided to compensate the two positions we made that decision without allowing others to apply for the positions. There was a good deal of uproar when this was done yet it appears that we are doing the same thing again. Other individuals may be interested in these positions. If we were to go with an application process, it would not preclude us from compensating those currently in the positions until the selection is made. Amendments were proposed but were eventually withdrawn. Additional copies of the Communications Committee report were distributed to some members of the HOD. There being no further discussion, it was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee.

It was MSA to recess at 11:55 AM

The meeting of the House of Delegates reconvened at 1:50 PM

President Jim Miller reminded the delegates to complete the committee request form and also the meeting evaluation forms. He promised that the convention next year will be different but it will still emphasize interaction between committees. Some very healthy interaction has occurred this year between committees that have not worked together in the past. The EC sees a number of issues on the horizon including topics of governance, FINA World Championships, and issues surrounding the database project. All of these are multi-committee projects that involve the EC Liaisons. Jim thanked the EC for the excellent job this year noting that they spent a lot of time on conference calls and have the best interest of the organization at heart. He also recognized Tracy Grilli's efforts over the year as she has taken on more responsibility and has participated in the EC meetings. Legal Counsel is a non-voting but active participant of the EC and Jim thanked Jack

Geoghegan for his service to the organization. Finally, he thanked his wife, Nancy, for the time she has given to the organization by allowing him to do his job as president.

Executive Committee: Jim Miller explained the action items in the minutes from the EC meeting that took place on Wednesday, September 11. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Board of Directors: Jim Miller explained the action items in the minutes from the BOD meeting that took place on Wednesday, September 11. It was MSA to accept the board's report.

Endowment Fund Board of Governors: Doug Church reviewed the action items. It was MSA to accept the board's report.

Web Master: Jim Matysek's report was in the convention packet. He reiterated that we offer free web hosting for Zones and LMSCs. On a more personal level, he expressed his gratitude for the vote of confidence that was done today. It was MSA to accept Jim's report.

USAS: Jim Miller mentioned that there was no additional information from the initial USAS report. It was MSA to accept Jim's report.

SWIM Magazine Editor: (Newsletter of the Year) Bill Volckening's report was in the convention packet. He also thanked the delegates for their confidence. Bill presented the Newsletter of the Year Award and noted that it gets full support from our USMS Sponsor, Tyr. This year's winning newsletter is from Dynamo Swim Club Masters. The "Watershed" is edited and designed by a "team": Maria Karunuñgan and David Shinn. The newsletter finalists were from Dynamo Swim Club, New England LMSC, New Jersey LMSC, Pacific LMSC, Connecticut LMSC, Florida LMSC, Oregon LMSC, Florida Mavericks, Potomac Valley LMSC and Southern Pacific LMSC. It was MSA to accept Bill's report.

IGLAS Liaison: Cris's report was in the convention packet. He noted that the Gay Games are in Australia this year. The nationals will be at Stanford this coming year and Cris encouraged us all to "come out". It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

USA Triathlon Liaison: Cindy Hawkinson's report was in the convention packet. She said they are working hard to generate new ideas. It was MSA to accept the liaison's report.

Championship Committee: Barry Fasbender highlighted the action items in his report. Mark Gill presented the meet schedule for the 2003 LC meet and a sense of the HOD was taken regarding the five-day format which has the 1500 and 800 placed on consecutive days. The vote was in favor of the proposal. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Block #4 Teaming together . . . to strengthen and protect!

Block #4: Jim Miller reviewed the action items (see Block #1) and it was MSA to accept Block #4's report.

Fitness Committee: Pam Himstreet referred to her report and said that most of the actions will be pursued through their "new and improved" web site. The 2002 Fitness Award was presented to Bill Volckening for creating the Fitness web site. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Insurance Committee: Colleen Driscoll thanked Sandi Blumit and Jack Geoghegan for their help and support during the past year. The committee was unable to vote on the liability insurance due to unavailable information but they were able to approve other items as noted in their report. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Long Distance Committee: Peter Crumbine thanked Sally Dillon, the former LD chair and also Lynn Hazlewood, his EC Liaison for their assistance this past year. He offered a special thanks to Tracy Grilli for all of her assistance as well and to Marcia Cleveland and Randy Nutt, the LD vice chairs. Peter announced the

results of the bidding for the 2004 National Championships as noted in the minutes. The LD minutes reported the committee's vote on the LD Rule Proposals. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Safety Committee: Patty Powis reviewed the committee's action items. A sense of the house was taken to see how many delegates would be interested in obtaining CPR training at the USMS convention next year; the response was excellent and a number of people volunteered to instruct. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Sports Medicine Committee: Jessica Seaton reviewed the action items in her minutes. The web site would be launched soon – extra care is needed due to the medical subject matter. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Block #5 Teaming together . . . to preserve and honor!

Block #5: Jim Miller reviewed the action items (see Block #1) and it was MSA to accept Block #5's report.

Ad-hoc ISHOF Nominating Committee: Ginger Pierson reviewed the committee's action items. Frank Piemme has been selected as the USMS Nominee to ISHOF for 2004. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

History & Archives Committee: Carl House reviewed the committee's action items. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Recognition & Awards Committee: Kathy Casey announced the winners of the USMS Dorothy Donnelly Service Award. This award is named in honor and memory of Dorothy Donnelly who was a "volunteer extraordinaire" in USMS. It is given to a person whose service is outstanding in its scope, its impact on the program and the number of members that benefit from the individual's efforts on the local, regional or national level. Anyone can nominate a person for the award by submitting a letter of nomination to the committee. The recipients were: Sally Dillon (Pacific Northwest - PNA), Mel Dyck (AZ), Jeanne Ensign (PNA), Errol Graham (Southern Pacific – SPMA), Jacque Grossman (South Carolina), Michael Heather (SPMA), Esther Lyman (New England), Wayne McCauley (SPMA), Sandy McNeel (PNA), Bob Merrick (SPMA), Steve Schofield (SPMA), Jessica Seaton (SPMA) and Meegan Wilson (Florida). Kathy reviewed the committee's action items. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Records & Tabulation Committee: Pieter Cath announced that he has appointed Mary Beth Windrath as vice chair. He reviewed the issues that have come before the committee this year, specifically pool length and age verification. Both have prompted proposals that can be found in the committee report. It was MSA to accept the committee's report.

Rules Committee: Leo Letendre thanked the USA-S officials who attended his meeting; their support was greatly appreciated. Leo reviewed the procedures for looking at the rule proposals. It was MSA to accept the committee's report (with the exclusion of all action items).

Recommended by the Rules Committee for adoption as written: R-4 and R-5 were pulled. It was MSA to accept those not pulled.

- R-4: a vote was taken to determine which proposed schedules would be dropped and the results were the removal of Schedules 3 and 4. It was MSA to approve R-4.

- R-5: After a brief discussion it was MSA to approve R-5.

Recommended by the Rules Committee for adoption as amended: R-15, R-16A, and R-16B were pulled. It was MSA to accept those not pulled.

- R-15: It was moved and seconded to amend the proposal to remove the word "exact" (105.1.7). Motion failed. A question was asked as to whom the pool certification would be submitted to. Leo said it was intentionally left as ambiguous but it is intended that the Records & Tabulation and Legislation Committees will

put in force a policy. Discussion was had regarding the frequency and method of measuring. A concern about the affect on long distance was expressed. It was MSA to table the discussion until the Long Distance Committee could meet.

- R-16A: It was MSA to amend the first sentence to end with “not count for USMS records and Top Ten”. A fair amount of concern was expressed that pools that do not meet the length standards will be used for sanctioned events even though the times from those meets will not count for “official purposes”. There is a concern that we will have two “classes” of competition; we may end up with one set of meets for “elite” swimmers and another set of meets for “other” swimmers. A sanctioned meet should come with some assurance that the facility is up to standard. Colleen Driscoll (Insurance) cleared up the confusion about coverage – USMS will determine which level of meet is to be covered. Comments in favor of the proposal noted that many swimmers enjoy meets without needing to have their times qualify for records or Top Ten. It was MSA to accept R-16A as amended.

It was MSA to remove R-15 from table. On further research, it was found that the exceptions for long distance are contained in one section. The Long Distance Committee will bring forth an emergency proposal in a few minutes. It was MSA to approve R-15 as amended.

- R-16B: The item should be 107.2.1 – new section D. It was MSA to approve R-16B with the change of location as noted.

Proposals not recommended by the Rules Committee: R-1, R-2, and R-10 were pulled.

Leo noted that the copy is not clear and that R-17 and R-21 were withdrawn.

It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee for the items not pulled.

- R-1: There was a misunderstanding about the proposal. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the Rules committee.

- R-2: Jerry Clark, from the Championship Committee, shared the results of a survey that he conducted. The results indicate that a significantly higher percentage of Championship Committee members attend National Championship meets compared to the percentage of convention delegates. Citing other statistics, Jerry concluded that the Championship Committee is highly qualified to make decisions regarding Championship site selection. During discussion it was suggested that the bidding sites should be released far enough in advance so the delegates can get opinions from their LMSCs. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the Rules Committee.

- R-10: There was another misunderstanding about the proposal. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the Rules committee.

USA-Swimming proposals: There were four proposals and the Rules committee recommended adoption of all proposals. U-1 was pulled. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the committee regarding UH-1 and UH-2.

- U-1: The question was not germane to the proposal on the table. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the Rules Committee.

UA-1 was an adaptive proposal that is not automatically adopted by USMS; however, the Rules Committee recommended the adoption. It was MSA to accept the recommendation of the Rules Committee.

Long Distance Emergency Proposal: Peter Crumbine, Long Distance Committee Chair, reported on the issue of pool length and postal events. The LD Committee held an emergency meeting and asked approval of the following proposal: Article 304.2 “Events shall be swum in a pool at least 25 yards in length” will become 304.2.1. Add new 304.2.2 “Requirements for pool certification (105.1.6) and pool measurement (105.1.7) shall not apply to postal events.” It was MSA to approve the Long Distance proposal.

Finance Committee: Tom Boak reviewed the action items in his report. Regarding FOG: It was MSA to accept FOG IV.C.2. as stated in the committee report. It was MSA to accept FOG XIL.B as stated in the committee report. It was MSA to accept the committee report with the exception of the budget.

Budget discussion: Tom noted that the Database Task Force line item is 5690. Line items 4010, 5090, 5270, 5685, 5690 were pulled. It was MSA to accept the remainder of the budget items as stated in the committee report.

- 4010: Discussion of the proposed \$5 per member increase took place. The last dues increase was for \$3, twelve years ago. It is forecasted that the membership for 2002 will be at 42,650 and for 43,000 for 2003. It was MSA to approve line item 4010.
- 5090: Nancy Ridout pointed out that \$600 of her budget amount is no longer needed; it was an expense left over from her presidency. It was MSA to amend line item 5090 to be \$400.
- 5270: Barry Fasbender asked for \$900 to assist in hosting officials at nationals. After some discussion it was moved and seconded to approve the increase. The motion failed. It was MSA to approve the original line item amount.
- 5685: Discussion of the increased Webmaster salary ensued. Tom explained the breakdown of the figures that constitute the budget item. He was under the impression (as per the Communication Committee) that the Webmaster was to be considered an employee. Legal Counsel, Patty Powis, said that it had not been determined if the position will be on a contract or employee basis and that the extra money budgeted would allow flexibility to choose either type of position. Conrad Johnson pointed out that the intended compensation is to be \$60,000, regardless of which type of position it becomes. Tom noted that the EC along with the Legal Counsel would make the final decision. Hugh Moore clarified that the difference between the Search Committee report and the requested \$60,000 amount includes monies set aside from the Database Task Force. It was MSA to approve line item 5685.
- 5690: No discussion. It was MSA to approve line item 5690.

President Miller made final announcements and called for New Business:

Hugh Moore asked that Legal Counsel provide guidance as to what was approved during the Communications Committee report. Apparently some questions have surfaced about the action items that were worded as "recommendations". A particular problem exists in the third MSA item. As per Hugh's' suggestion, it was MSA that the "House of Delegates approve an alternate bidding process as per Section IV of the Professional Management Guidelines and that the current UMS Webmaster and USMS Magazine Editor be selected without an application and interview process".

Mark Gill shared information about the 2003 SC Championships. ASU graduation is taking place the same weekend so swimmers should make their reservations early.

Jack Geoghegan thanked the HOD for the opportunity of serving with and for them over the years and stated that he doesn't think he has experienced more fun and met such committed individuals ever. This convention and the actions that have been approved have been an inspiration. Keep it up!

It was MSA to adjourn the House of Delegates at 5:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary