



Candidate for Board of Directors

Anthony Thompson – Breadbasket Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Anthony Thompson is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate is an incumbent and needed no nomination or letters of recommendation, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

San Diego 2003, Orlando 2004, Greensboro 2005, Dearborn 2006, Anaheim 2007, Atlanta 2008, and Chicago 2009.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

Insert I am interested in continuing on the USMS BOD to serve its membership. With the election of officers and directors in consecutive years, USMS needs continuity by re-electing some directors since many of our current directors have reached term limits. I reside in a smaller LMSC in the Midwest with a diversity of community sizes spread over a large geography. The USMS BOD needs a diversity of membership from all regions of the country that bring experience from leadership within the LMSC, the Zones, and from USMS Committee, as well as from their professional lives.

In addition, I have served as the chair of the USMS International Committee and have an interested in how USMS interact with FINA and other international organization within the aquatics community. I have represented USMS through my club at four FINA World Championships as well as the recent PanAm UANA Championship in Mexico as well as other international aquatics events.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

- Providing leadership as USMS continued growth from +50,000 toward 100,000 members by acting with transparency, by seeking and being receptive to input from the membership, by leading with the vision of our organization into the future (and not just relying on our history).
- Changes in Governance – continued transformation to an organization with professional staff and national office while continuing to provide meaningful volunteer opportunity.
- Financial growth to support the organization as we transform and build our Endowment Fund.
- Continue initiatives to bring international visitors to USAS/USMS Convention to continue to build our relationships within the international community of masters swimmers.
- Succession Planning – within LMSCs, for USMS Committees, for Zone Chairs, and for the USMS BOD including the Executive Committee. Leadership development within all levels of this volunteer-based organization is key.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Safety & Education (Julie Heather) 2004-5; Rules (Leo Letendre and Kathy Casey) 2004-2007; International (Sandi Rousseau, Mary Pohlmann, Anthony Thompson, Wayne McCauley, and Lazslo Eger) 2004-2009; Zone Committee (Julie Heather) 2005-2008, and USMS BOD 2008-present, and BOD Governance Committee (Patty Miller 2008 and Anthony Thompson 2009-current), 2008-current.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

In my profession life I am an analytical chemist in a pharmaceutical company. My work involves the details in the regulation of the FDA, and requires strong analytical skills as well as project management. I have also been a lead member of committees to develop and implement training programs.

I have served on the board of directors of Kansas City Corporate Challenge (27-sport competition between corporations in KC metro over 7-weeks each summer, which includes a swim meet with 800 participants) with a focus on facilitating the 1200+ volunteers (from the 160+ company that participate) to smoothly operate these competitions.

USMS Convention Workshops – 2 years facilitated LMSC Chair workshop

USMS Convention – served as key contact for international visitors to USAS/USMS Convention.

Within our LMSC, I have served as:

- Missouri Valley LMSC Chair – 2003-2008
- Missouri Valley Fitness Chair – 1999-2003 and 2008-current
- Co-Meet director for local swim meets, including the Mizzou SCM Championship in Dec 2006 & Dec 2007.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

The USMS BOD needs a diversity of membership from all regions of the country that bring experience from leadership within the LMSC, the Zones and from their professional lives. I reside in a smaller LMSC in the Midwest with a diversity of community sizes spread over a large geography. USMS needs continuity by re-electing some directors since many of our current directors have reached term limits. In addition, I have served as the chair of the USMS International Committee and have an interest in how USMS interact with FINA and other international organization within the aquatics community. The key issues facing USMS are: continued transformation of organizational structure with a professional staff and national office, financial and membership growth, and leadership development for all levels of the organization for clubs, LMSC, Zones, USMS Committees and for USMS BOD.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Chris McGiffin – Colonies Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Chris McGiffin is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Ed Tsuzuki and received letters of recommendation from Debbie Morrin-Nordlund and Sue Kirk, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Attended 2005 - 2009 HOD Meetings

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in participating in the activities of the Board of Directors to help contribute to the fulfillment of the recent goals set by USMS - to continue to provide meaningful volunteer experiences, to grow membership, and to help pursue the targets of increasing the USMS Endowment. I believe that I bring the skills and experience necessary as a candidate to represent the Colonies Zone and actively participate in the strategic planning that will be crucial to achieving the objectives over the next two years.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

In my view, one of the biggest challenges the organization has is recruiting and retaining LMSC volunteers. We are just beginning to work through the changes associated with a transition to a staff-based National Governing Body. Having observed and participated in the governance initiatives that helped to streamline the organization, I feel that we need to be careful with the pace of changes expected to occur, and I would re-emphasize the message and rationale for change will likely require patience, an encouraging tone, and in some cases, direct assistance to help affect the changes expected.

The LMSC Minimum Standards adopted by the HOD last year, seeks to achieve a standard operational structure, and by extension, an ability for LMSC's to provide a common level of service to all members. I think we realize that compliance with the guidelines is a worthy objective, but I feel that USMS will need to help some LMSCs meet the minimum standards. The weakness seems to lie mainly in the realm of recruiting and retaining enthusiastic and energetic volunteers to fill required positions and lead their respective LMSCs toward fulfilling the other policies stipulated. This needs to be done in a manner that promotes positive reinforcement rather than a perception of imposing rules and risks of penalties for lack of immediate compliance. I do not wish to alienate the volunteers we have in place, who serve local members with passion and dedication. Rather, I recognize that each LMSC may progress



toward achieving the minimum standards at a different pace. I do not doubt that the will to meet the standards exists, but I feel that we need to engage the LMSCs who have compliance gaps individually in a way that fosters a strong working relationship with mutual benefits for all involved.

The transition to a professional staff-based organization from a mostly volunteer-run is still underway. I would work on solutions that focus on the objective of full LMSC compliance, but I would do so in a manner that best suits the circumstances of each LMSC, understanding that most face a shortage of volunteers, and that this shortage has a major influence on the ability to meet the minimum standards.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

USMS Legislation Committee member (under Rob Copeland and Sean Fitzgerald): 2005 - present USMS Marketing Committee member (under Tom Boyd): 2006-2007 USMS Marketing Committee Chair: 2008 - 2009
USMS LMSC Development Committee member: 2010

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

USMS Member since 1995: Berkeley Aquatic Masters, Berkeley Heights, NJ
National Top Ten finisher
LMSC Record holder
Planner for Annual Holiday Party
NJ LMSC Chair: 2004 - 2009
NJ LMSC Vice Chair: 2010

Facilitated LMSC bylaw updates
Implemented LMSC Membership Promotion Campaign
Developed an LMSC Membership Recognition Awards Program
Helped to create an Annual LMSC Awards Banquet
Led efforts to sanction the first LMSC Open Water event
Club Development Workshop: Mentor program (Dallas, TX) attendee/graduate

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

Chris McGiffin, candidate for At-Large Colonies Zone Director. USMS member since 1995, held volunteer and leadership positions at the Club, LMSC, and USMS organization levels. Committed to working with the USMS Board of Directors in promoting the organization's missions, objectives and goals to serve the USMS community.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Rowdy Gaines– Dixie Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Rowdy Gaines is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Keith M. Switzer and received letters of recommendation from Scot Weiss and Keith M. Switzer, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?



I like what I am publicly seeing from USMS and it's direction. I would like to contribute strategically and with my relationships in its continued growth.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

The organization is going through a culture change now with a staff in place and a headquarters. Marketing of the organization has become much more visible and I believe with my understanding of swimming and background, I can be of assistance.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

I have been the USA Swimming Representative for a number of years. I have attended 20+ Conventions.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Chief Fundraising Officer of the USA Swimming Foundation; Executive Director of the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame, swim coach, three time Olympic gold medalist, NBC Olympic Games TV commentator. ESPN commentator, emcee for the International Swimming Hall of Fame, I participated in the Rowdy Gaines Master's Classic bringing back the once popular SCM meet to the Orlando YMCA Aquatic Center.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Over the last two decades, I have visited and met a number of Masters coaches and conducted clinics with them. I continue to be inspired by each person I meet.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

USMS has a great legacy and a terrific future. I look forward to helping the organization meet its objectives.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Phil Dodson – Great Lakes Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Phil Dodson is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Homer Lane and received letters of recommendation from Ralph Davis and Nadine Day, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Michigan -2006, Charlottesville -2007, Los Angeles -2008, Chicago -2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am interested in the Board position because of my passion for Masters swimming and my belief that I can make a difference. I have been a self employed CPA, providing financial and management services to small business entrepreneurs since 1991. I will bring an entrepreneurial spirit with a fresh and unique perspective to this Board position. I am also currently engaged with 8 different non profit organizations, providing services ranging from accounting and tax return services to Board advisor and permanent part time CFO management. I am professionally qualified with both, a strong financial management background and a general business operating experience to serve on our policy-making body.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?



USMS continues to transition from an all volunteer managed organization to a professionally managed organization. It is important that the Board provide the support and vision to all levels of our organization and foster communication and interaction among them: Board, Delegates, Committees, Staff, Volunteers, LMSC's and Clubs.

As USMS continues to grow and strive for its membership goal of 100,000, it is important to remember the goal is not membership growth, rather increased value to the membership. We must not seek growth just for the sake of growth. We must ensure that the value to our core membership improves with our growth. This is especially true as the strategic plans calls for continued dues increases.

USMS is very strong financially. There is an opportunity and a goal to establish and grow a significant endowment fund. Such a Fund would be a major asset for the organization, providing financial support for membership programs and further secure its strong financial position.

As a Board member I will bring my professional business experience to manage policies and encourage procedures to:

- Encourage Board focus on policies, global issues and strategic initiatives, discourage micro management.
- Support, but question, monitor but not interfere, and provide guidance to our professional staff and committees.
- Improve financial reporting to the Board and educate the Board on interpreting financial results and acting thereon.
- Instill a need for cost benefit justifications for major USMS programs.
- Seek development of metrics and follow up procedures for evaluating programs' successes.
- Encourage Board focus on membership value. Use an entrepreneurial approach to develop membership initiatives in: member only web content, group disability and life insurance programs, expanded affinity programs, alliances with other fitness / athletic organizations, club and coach development, joint LMSC program initiatives and open water events.
- Support development of initiatives to create a significant endowment fund.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Finance Committee, 2007-current under Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis and Homer Lane

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

- My first year on the Finance Committee (FC), I developed budget procedures that focused review on 95% of revenue and expense line items, significantly increasing the productivity of the FC at Convention and quality of its budget approval responsibility.
- I have been involved with the FC annual FOG review and revisions since 2007 culminating in the significant revision at 2009 Convention. This revision fully integrated FOG with the Strategic Plan to transition to a paid professional staff.
- I headed the FC task force to draft the Audit Committee Charter, which was presented and adopted by the Board in January 2010.
- I wrote and presented the Clubs and LMSC Accounting workshop at 2007 convention. The Club portion was updated in spring 2009 and used by Mel Goldstein in his Club Handbook.
- In December 09 and January 10, I worked with management to create a functional expense line item accounting format and rationalize our 115 cost center format reducing them to 37. Implementation is on going and expected to be adopted into our accounting system 1/1/2011.

LMSC Experience:

- I have been Finance Chair for five years and expect to be elected Treasurer effective May 1st. During this period I have improved accounting control procedures, prepared financial statements, tax returns and annual budgets.
- I have also guided the fiscal responsibility in ILSMA and reduced ILSMA dues so that total members' dues, including USMS, have only increased \$2 in the last four years!
- In January 2010, I drafted and implemented an investment policy for ILSMA excess reserve funds.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am 57 years old, married 30 years with three children, 25, 23 and 21. The two oldest are part time LAX coaches and my youngest in college studying to be a teacher. Besides my passion for swimming, as a 4 time cancer survivor I also enjoy living. I have adopted the Swim Across America cancer awareness and fund raising efforts in Chicago as a personal mission to battle this disease. I have organized the largest fund raising team in Chicago, both by participation and dollars raised and personally been the #1 or #2 individual fund raiser in Chicago for the last 5 years.

I have 34 years experience in accounting and financial management. My career experience ranges from working for public accounting, a fortune 500 manufacturing corporation to company start-ups and entrepreneurial businesses. I have been self employed since 1991, with a focus on small businesses. However, my very first client was a non profit, with the same revenue as USMS. Today I still provide them accounting and tax services, meeting with and advising the Board monthly.

I work with several small business owners. While I primarily provide tax and accounting services to them, they value me most as a business advisor. These entrepreneurs have a unique perspective on business and strategic thinking. I have learned a lot from my clients over the years. I look forward to bringing my accounting discipline and entrepreneurial spirit to the Board of USMS.

As a self employed individual, I have the flexibility to commit the time required to involve myself. As an individual driven and motivated to excel, I can make a difference.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am interested in the Board position because of my passion for Masters swimming and my belief that I can make a difference. I have 34 years of business experience working with both small business entrepreneurs and non profit organizations, an interesting and unique combination. There are major, but achievable challenges facing USMS: transitioning to a paid professional staff, managing membership



growth to increase value to core members and strengthening our financial position with an endowment fund initiative. I bring the experience and discipline to serve on our policy-making body to face these challenges.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Hugh Moore– Northwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Hugh Moore is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Jeanne Ensigh and received letters of recommendation from Jeanne Ensigh and Kathy Casey, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

All HOD Meetings 1985-2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been involved with Masters swimming administration for nearly 30 years and am continually looking for ways to serve USMS. I feel that my organizational and communication skills make me an excellent candidate. I also believe that my broad experience at team, LMSC, and national levels enables me to appreciate the diversity of our LMSCs, clubs, and individual members.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

USMS is poised for significant membership and fiscal growth. Future boards must work with our national office staff and ensure that the 11% growth that we enjoyed in 2009 continues. The current board has created a task force to “explore what to do with workout groups.” This is certainly a step in the right direction. Workout groups have been in existence since the beginning of Masters swimming. They provide unique opportunities for camaraderie. However, they also sometimes provide potential unfair advantages for creating relays. I believe that it is time for USMS to create a task force to address fairness issues in competition, including workout groups, but expanded to consider other issues such as recruiting and verifying that meets are properly officiated. If we had such a committee in the past they could have also dealt with tech suits.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

- Member Recognition and Awards Committee 2009-present (Sally Dillon, Chair)
- Member LMSC Development Committee 2009-present (Doug Adamavich, Chair)
- Chair Communications Committee, 2000-2009 (Lynn Hazlewood & Mark Gill EC liaison)
- Member Championship Committee, 2007-2009 (Mark Moore, Chair)
- Member, Editorial Board, 2004-2005 (Lynn Hazlewood, Chair)
- Member ad hoc History and Archives Committee 1999-2001 (Carl House Chair)
- Chair Zone Committee 1997-2000
- Member, USMS Executive Committee 1997-2000 (Nancy Ridout President)
- Chair ad hoc Professional Management Committee 1998-2000 (Nancy Ridout EC liaison)
- Chair Officials Committee 1993 – 1997 (Suzanne Rague EC Liaison)
- Chair Planning Committee 1991 – 1992

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

My involvement at the team level as president of a 100+ member team, LMSC level as board member for over 25 years, Meet Director for four national championship swim meets, and USMS level as delegate for 25 years, has provided me with a thorough understanding of issues that face USMS, LMSCs, clubs, and individual members.



Please list any other information you would like included.

Swimming has been a major part of my life for over 45 years. I have continually served my team, LMSC, and USMS for nearly 30 years. In recognition of my efforts I have received the Pacific Northwest Distinguished Service Award (1998), National Championship Meet Award (2001), and Ransom Arthur Award (2002).

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

USMS is poised for significant membership and fiscal growth. Our Board of Directors, Executive Committee, and National Office Staff must work together to ensure that USMS continues to be a leader among adult fitness organizations.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Jim Clemmons– Oceana Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Jim Clemmons is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Michael Moore and received letters of recommendation from Brian Stack and Nancy Ridout, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Greensboro, NC 2005, Anaheim, CA 2007, Atlanta, GA 2008, Chicago, IL 2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I enjoy interacting with all the different personality types which are drawn to swimming, whether it is with the competitive or totally non-competitive swimmer, the fitness and/or “just there for the social aspect part of it” swimmer, the pool swimmer, the open water swimmer or the triathlete. I am interested in representing the Oceana Zone’s many faceted types, their interests, and as I am very much a goal oriented person, I believe I will be helpful with achieving USMS organizational goals going forward.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe USMS is undergoing some growing pains. Nothing serious, nothing that will lead to organizational collapse, but, as we are continuing to transition from a volunteer based organization to a business with a paid leadership staff, we have some hurdles to overcome with some elements of the general membership. Attention must be paid to the varying levels of participation types, whether or not it fits into personal goals, aiming for the success of the organization as a whole.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Coaches Committee, Bob Bruce, Mo Chambers, Chris Colburn chair, dates: 2006, 2007 and 2008
Finance Committee, Ralph Davis chair, dates: 2008 and 2009
Championship Committee, Jeff Roddin chair, dates: 2010, currently serving

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

- Vice-Chair, Operations, Pacific LMSC
- Board of Directors member on team that I have been swimming with for the past 11 years, Manatee Aquatic Masters, Inc. The MAM team consists of approximately 250 swimmers with a relatively typical breakdown of participation levels with normal swimming related issues and challenges to contend with.
- Operations Manager for a large US defense contractor. Duties include oversight of Facilities, EH&S and Security functions for offices located in California, New Mexico and Colorado.

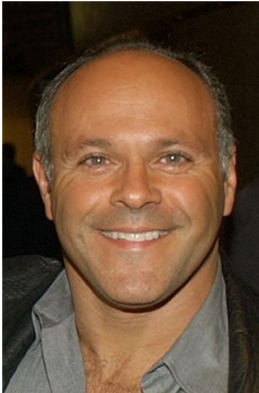


Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I believe that USMS has many great things to offer all swimmers. I also believe that, sometimes, people tend to focus on areas that are more beneficial to themselves, or a select group, and not the parent organization as a whole. I believe that by being more involved, I will be able to assist in helping grow our membership and lend support to ideas that will continue the current trend towards a healthy future. We are currently experiencing significant changes within the organization and it is imperative we communicate anticipated changes to the membership as far in advance as practical. I look forward to working with others to meet these goals.

Candidate for Board of Directors

Errol Graham– Southwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Errol Graham is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Michael Heather and received letters of recommendation from Jessica W. Seaton and Michael Heather, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended HOD meetings at more than 12 conventions starting in 1996.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been elected and have also volunteered for various positions on many boards and committees over the years for my club, my LMSC, and for USMS, and I think my experience and perspective would be an asset to USMS in this position.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe that the major issues are the growth of the organization and the biggest challenge is to provide services to all members of USMS. I think that we should offer surveys to our members to find out if they are satisfied with what they are getting from USMS and also give them an opportunity to let us know what more we can do for them.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

I was a member of the Championship Committee for many years under Barry Fassbender and Mark Moore. I was also a member of the Recognition & Awards Committee under Kelly Crandell in 2006 and 2007.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

I have served my club as President, Vice-President, Swimming Representative, and Treasurer, and I have also served my LMSC as Vice-Chair and Member-at-Large.

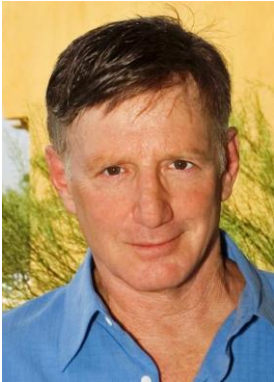
Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

My life changed in so many ways when I joined the Masters swimming world in 1989. Consequently, I have tried to give back by volunteering on the club, local, and national levels in various capacities over the years. I have been elected to numerous positions and served on many committees, and I believe I would be an asset to USMS in the position of at-large director.



Candidate for Board of Directors

Phil Whitten—Southwest Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Phil Whitten is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by Paul Smith and received letters of recommendation from Betsy Durrant and Nadine Day, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines. These letters are published in the Election section of the USMS web site.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

Almost all from 1993 through 2009

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been a member of USMS continuously for 40 years. During that time I have both watched it grow and, primarily through my research and writing, contributed to that growth. Having lived in the Southwest zone for 16 years, I am familiar with local as well as national and international issues and feel I can bring a long term perspective and a significant amount of experience to the Board as USMS moves forward.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

There are a number of major issues, both internal and external, facing our organization. Among them

1. The long-tem viability and stability of USMS.
2. We now have over 50,000 members. How do we plan to get to 100,000? Should that be a goal? In general, what kind of growth should we be seeking and what are our strategies to achieve it?
3. The high-tech suits. (I believe we haven't seen the last of them.
4. Articulating benefits of membership better.
5. Related to #4: improving retention rate of members.
6. Single-event registration.
7. Lifetime membership
8. Becoming a significant partner with Michelle Obama's efforts to reduce obesity

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

International 1996 – 2008 Jim Miller et al
Sports Medicine & Science 1996 – 2006

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Editor of SWIM Magazine, 1993-2006. Started the New England and National All-Time Top 10 lists for all three courses and kept them for 13 years. Published seminal research on aging and performance and on swimming and sexuality. Put USMS on the "map" with major articles including one in Parade magazine. Member of New England Board for over 12 years. United States Masters Swimming Zone Committee September 2009 Election Operating Guidelines

Please list any other information you would like included.

Leader in fight against doping and in saving threatened college swim teams. Member of USAS International Committee.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am seeking the position of Southwest Zone Director because I have been and remain today an outspoken advocate for our sport in general and USMS in particular. I believe I can bring a long-term perspective to the Board's deliberations that will help us make wise decisions for the future of our organization.



Candidate for Board of Directors

Don Mehl– South Central Zone



The Election Committee has deemed that Don Mehl is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated that he/she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his/her tenure in office.

The candidate is an incumbent and needed no nomination or letters of recommendation, in accordance with our Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-To-Run Form:

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting at the last 24 consecutive USAS Conventions, 1986 to 2009.

III. Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

During my first term as South Central Zone At-Large Director, I learned many of the administrative duties and responsibilities required to manage such a large and diverse organization such as ours. Situations change, almost daily. During my 32 years with U.S. Masters swimming as an administrator, coach, and competitor I have helped develop and administer adult swimming practices, clinics, meets, and dryland training programs. I have also worked at the National level for 24 years, learning from many other USMS members how to utilize our resources to encourage and motivate adults to improve their lives with Masters swimming.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I believe USMS should continue to vigorously pursue joint participation activities with other aquatic/athletic organizations such as USA swimming, USA Triathlon, Senior Games, Special Olympics, Paralympics, etc. Although USMS has liaisons or contacts with most of these groups, I believe more should be done at the local level. Many communities have benefited from coordination and consolidation in regards to administration, coaching, securing water time, safety, and training officials. USMS and USA Swimming could both greatly benefit from a large number of potential swimming officials from USMS members. However, USMS members are required to register separately (and pay additional registration fees) to USA Swimming to be certified. Why do USMS swimmers need a 2nd registration, just to officiate? USMS and USA Swimming are insured by the same company for the same coverage. I think USMS should help streamline and facilitate training and certification of officials for USMS members without the added cost.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Various years, 1986-2009:
Coaches Committee: Judy Bonning, Steve Schofield, Mike Collins, Scott Rabalais, Ed Nessel, Bob Bruce, Mo Chambers, Chris Colburn
Sports Medicine Committee: Jim Miller, Jane Moore, Jessica Seaton
Club of the Year sub-committee (Recognition and Awards Committee): Sally Dillon
Safety Committee (Ad Hoc)

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

As Masters swimming administrator, coach, and competitive athlete:
•2008 to Present – At-Large Director from the South Central Zone, serving on the Governance Committee.
•1978 – founded and coached the first United States Masters Swimming program for adults in El Paso at the Central YWCA
•1980 to 2000 – served as LMSC Chair for Border Swimming
•1985 to 2005 – founded and coached the Rio Grande Swim Club
•1986 to Present – represented Border USMS and USA Swimming at United States Aquatic Sports (USAS) conferences, as delegate and serving on Sports Medicine, Safety, and Coaches Committees for USMS



- 1991 to 1993 – chaired USMS Coaches Committee
- 1997 to 2004 – developed and taught the Swimming Smarter program for swimmers of all ages at the University of Texas at El Paso
- 2001 – interned and coached Masters swimmers at the USMS/USA High Altitude Training Camp at the United States Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, Colorado
- 2004 – attended the Adapted Swimming Training Camp at the USOTC, which trains swimmers with disabilities
- Authored articles for Swim Magazine, Masters Aquatic Coaches Association Newsletter, and the USMS website
- Currently certified as USA Swimming and UIL Swimming Official
- 2000 and 2006 – meet director for the USMS South Central Zone Long Course Championships
- 1978 to Present – competed in numerous local, regional, state, national, and world competitions, achieving All-American status (2006, 2008) and many Top-10 rankings
- Honored to receive the 2005 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award

Please list any other information you would like included.

There have been many positive changes to our organization in the last two years, and many more to come. I bring a unique perspective to USMS, as I have worked in every capacity for our LMSC, including 20-years as Chair and 24 years as a USAS delegate. I have been directly involved in United States Masters Swimming as a coach, administrator, and competitor since 1978. I have the knowledge, passion, and skills to help develop growth and continuing interest in Masters swimming.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am honored to have served U.S. Masters Swimming as South Central Zone Director since 2008. I look forward to carrying out another term to continue working on the vital issues facing us during this time of growth and transition. I feel it is essential that USMS continues leading the way promoting adult fitness. New benefits for members, such as the Club and Coach Services and SwimFest, provide a remarkable resource for support and education. However, our strength comes from grassroots relationships at the local level with workout groups, clubs, and LMSC's. As our organization grows, we must maintain our pioneering spirit and keep our traditions alive.