

Greetings 2001 Delegates!

Get ready for four days of planning, listening, contributing, evaluating, voting, making new friends – and having great fun with fellow Masters swimmers! If you are a new delegate, “Welcome!” All of us who are returning delegates look forward to renewing old friendships. Please join together Wednesday evening in the Hospitality Suite for refreshments and a time to socialize before we get to work.

Our convention time this year will be full and exciting - as usual. Our committees will evaluate past projects and objectives, and, with your input and creativity, create new goals and new programs to enrich Masters swimming. We will choose the venues for our 2003 Short Course and Long Course National Championships, and each committee will decide how to best contribute to the implementation of the USMS Strategic Plan. This is a LEGISLATION year, so be prepared for some debate on the need for modifications, additions, or deletions to our Code of Regulations (Preamble, Goals and Objectives, Glossary, Part 2, Part 4, Part 5, Part 6 and Appendix D of the USMS Rule Book.) Please attend any committees that interest you and feel free to contribute your ideas. *You are strongly urged to attend the Open Forum on the Legislation Proposals Thursday afternoon.* There are no conflicting meetings during this time.

You will be electing new officers at this convention. A candidates forum, nominating speeches, background material available in the Hospitality Suite, a picture display, and informal opportunities to get to know the candidates will be available. Please take advantage of these opportunities.

For the benefit of all delegates, we will have a presentation of Roberts Rules of Order by our Parliamentarian, Jim Wheeler, at the first session of the House of Delegates. These rules will be in effect for all meetings and everyone needs to be aware of how our meetings will be conducted.

Our committees have been busy this year, as you will see from reading the enclosed reports. Many of their ideas, projects, and proposals are exciting and energizing. For me, the convention is truly a time of renewal and inspiration. You all make that happen year after year; it never fails. It is an honor and a privilege to have led this organization for the last four years. I have taken this responsibility seriously and I have thoroughly enjoyed serving all of you and this extraordinary organization.

I look forward to our time together in Dearborn!

Nancy Ridout, President  
United States Masters Swimming