

PROPOSAL: Create the position of within USMS of National Coaching Director

The National Coaching Director would handle duties as directed by the USMS Coaches Committee and the USMS Executive Committee. Those duties would include but not be limited to:

LEADERSHIP

- *Serve as a leader of Masters coaches in the United States
- *Assist developing Masters coaches around the country, serving as an information source for coaches

PROMOTION

- *Promote Masters coaching as a career and help to ensure that all coaches are registered with USMS

COMMUNICATION

- *Communicate to coaches, clubs and swimmers through a regular coaches newsletter, e-mail and Internet. The regularly published and timely newsletter should be high quality and reflect both the business and the pool sides of Masters coaching.
- *Communicate regularly with LMSC Coaches Representatives (new position) and work to find the most effective LMSC Coaches Representative in each LMSC
- *Develop and maintain a strong rapport with coaches from other aquatic organizations
- *Maintain an effective working relationship and an on-going rapport with the Executive and Coaches Committees, as well as other committees and special assignments related to the coaching field and coaching matters

EDUCATION

- *Work with the USMS Editor of SWIM (or official USMS publication) to include information helpful to swimmers and coaches of all abilities
- *Solicit, schedule, promote and oversee all USMS clinics, camps, seminars and schools
- *Promote coaches' education and certification
- *Work with the American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) in updating certification materials, or develop a USMS coaches' certification system
- *Maintain an updated USMS Coaches Manual
- *Conduct coaches meetings at nationals, conventions and other major events
- *Encourage coaches meetings at a local and zone level

CLUB DEVELOPMENT

- *Assist coaches and club representatives with club development (travel to four developing clubs per year as the major part of a mentoring program)
- *Assist in locating facilities that can host Masters clubs

EMPLOYMENT/FINANCIAL

- *Work to improve the income, benefits, acceptance and respect of Masters coaches
- *Oversee a Masters job service through newsletter and USMS web site

RECOGNITION

- *Promote recognition opportunities for Masters coaches
- *Work with local media to publicize the achievements of local Masters coaches

Rationale: The growth and effectiveness of United States Masters Swimming is directly related to the number and effectiveness of Masters coaches. USMS can benefit tremendously by hiring a National Coaching Director and paying him/her as a part-time or full-time employee. Rather than relying on volunteer leadership for such numerous and important responsibilities, USMS can provide strong and active leadership in this most critical area by creating and effectively managing such a position.