

UNITED STATES MASTERS SWIMMING

Executive Committee Conference Call

MINUTES

January 8, 2002

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 7:04 PMS EST. Present were Scott Rabalais, Doug Church, Sally Dillon, Lynn Hazlewood, Nancy Ridout, Jack Geoghegan, and Tracy Grilli.

1. The next conference call will be on Monday, January 28 at 7pm, EST.

2. DECISIONS SINCE THE LAST MEETING:

The minutes from the December 11, 2001 conference call were approved during email exchanges and have been posted on the web. In the future they will be e-mailed to all Board of Directors (BOD) members at the same time they are sent to the webmaster. Jim announced that Jeanne Ensign has accepted the appointment of USMS Internal Auditor and Cris Meier-Windes has accepted the appointment of USMS IGLA Liaison. Lynn submitted details for the Zone Chair election, which have been posted on the web and announced in the Jan/Feb issue of SWIM Magazine. Melissa Rinker will arrange future web site updates through the Communications chair, Hugh Moore. Doug Church will be the EC liaison for the Election committee.

3. OFFICER REPORTS:

Past President - Nancy reported that Pieter Cath has done an excellent job leading the Records and Tabulation committee in the recent discussion of the pool length issue in Oregon. She has conferred with Rich Burns (Marketing) and the public relations person who was selected and great ideas are being generated. A proposed contract will be faxed to Jack tomorrow for his comments. Forms have been sent out for the USOTC High Altitude campers to complete and Sports Medicine Committee's medical survey was included.

Vice President - Scott reminded everyone to send him their travel plans for the Houston retreat so he can arrange pickups at the airport. The chairs of the Coaches (Michael Collins), Fitness (Pam Himstreet) and Recognition and Awards (Kathy Casey) committees are doing a great job getting things rolling in their first month of leadership.

Zone Chair - Lynn reported that Betsy Durrant (Planning) intends to contact other committees for coordination. Betsy is interested in following up on issues John Spanuth has brought forth in a letter to the Executive Committee. Peter Crumbine (Long Distance) has been assigning committee members to tasks. Hugh Moore (Communications) indicated that the web-master is evaluating ways of improving the server's technical support. A sidebar with artwork from sponsors is in the planning stage with Mel Goldstein assisting. Lynn asked that the EC determine a technical strategic plan with respect to the project of moving USMS Archives to the USMS web site. Jim will contact Carl House later in the week with specific questions about the plans for the project.

Secretary - Sally asked for feedback on the Convention Exit Survey that was finished in December. She will e-mail it to the BOD. The separate form that was for comments about specific committee meetings will be sent to the current chairs. An e-mail has been sent to all previous chairs in order to solicit comments about the usefulness of the Committee Handbook, Working Calendar and convention minutes format. Excellent responses have been received. The revised materials will be distributed electronically but will also be available in hard copy form upon request. The sub-committee to revise the BOD Responsibilities summary will have something for all to see prior to the next conference call. Sally received an electronic copy of the Professional Management Guidelines from Lynn and will see that everyone has a copy.

The EC needs to decide where to publish this document so that it is readily accessible for all to see. Committee chairs, Carl House (History and Archives), Patty Powis (Safety Education) and Meg Smath (Publications) have generated excellent communication to their committees and are initiating a number of projects.

Finance – Doug reported that the Championship committee (Barry Fasbender) is in good hands and that Sandi Rousseau has agreed to be the on site liaison for the National Championships in 2002. Tom Boak (Finance) has sent out a detailed message to his committee that will tie in with the task force. Doug is assimilating some information for the new members of the Endowment committee and he is looking forward to getting the group engaged in meaningful activity.

President – Jim reported that Jessica Seaton (Sports Medicine) is working quickly to firm up details for the altitude training camp. The committee representative will be confirmed shortly. Jim's other committees are rolling along well with lots of correspondence and organization happening.

Legal counsel – Jack reported that Rob Copeland (Legislation) hit the ground running and has held a conference call with his vice chair and Jack. Leo Letendre (Rules) has communicated with his committee.

Scott asked about the use of conference calls to meet with chairs and vice chairs of committees and Jim advised that it is possible but he would need to be notified. Most often conference calls have been handled through the individual chairs and their committees.

4. CONVENTION – The agenda and packet need to be developed but the timing will allow us to do most of the work at the Houston retreat. Jim would like to have input from committee chairs in advance of the meeting so Sally will put together a letter to send to the chairs. Responses will go to her and she will provide a summary for the EC to use in their planning.
5. RETREAT IN HOUSTON, February 22-24. Sally and Scott have been accumulating items for the agenda, will compare lists and will have it ready for the next conference call. Members of the EC are asked to submit topics to Sally.
6. EDITORIAL REVIEW BOARD – This item will be discussed at length at the February retreat and we will consider conferencing Hugh Moore in during the discussion.
7. HENNING LIBRARY CONTRACT – The History and Archives committee has asked the EC to produce a contract for historical data storage with the Henning Library. Although the monies were allocated in 2001, a contract was not executed; the monies were not spent and have been carried over into the reserves. Doug will talk to Cathy Pennington about the details. Jack and Nancy will explore the location of the documents in order to prepare the contract and Sally will contact Carl House to see if he has a copy of the agreement language that was decided upon last year. Jack would like the contract to be done by someone other than himself as he considers it a conflict of interest since he is a member of the ISHOF Board of Directors. Doug will help prepare a letter of intent that Jim will send to the curator at the Henning Library stating that we realize that the contract was not extended to them in 2001 as hoped and that we are still interested.
8. ISHOF and IMSHOF – Jack will be attending an International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) meeting over the next weekend. A number of changes are being discussed at the Hall of Fame including a possible move to a different location. FINA, a major supporter of ISHOF, has

criticized the Hall for not having a more international flavor and it was noted that no foreign masters swimmers have been inducted. Changes to the method of selecting athletes for ISHOF have been enacted that would allow only 9 honorees from all of the disciplines – including masters. An expressed commitment to at least one masters athlete is not guaranteed. Sam Freas has put forth a suggestion to have an International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) and Tod Spieker has headed a committee (which included Ginger Pierson, Dave Levinson, Mel Goldstein, June Krauser and Jack) to develop criteria. He will present his report at the weekend's meeting. IMSHOF would be a separate section of the Hall of Fame.

9. BUDGET PROCEDURE FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS - Tom Boak and Doug will work together to see that the chairs receive a copy of their budget and the constraints by January 28. Doug reported that forms that include detailed budget information for previous years can be made available to the committee chairs for planning their budget next time around. The idea of having a bi-annual budget is being discussed with the Finance committee.
10. USMS WEB SITE - After discussion of an opportunity to upgrade our discussion forum software, it was MSA to recommend to our web master to obtain software that will better serve our members.
11. OREGON POOL LENGTH – The EC held a lengthy discussion regarding measurement of pools and the requirements that USMS, USA-S and FINA have in place. A concern was expressed that establishing a standard that exceeds those of other organizations would put USMS in a difficult position. The Rules and Records and Tabulation committee will look further into the issue during the coming year.

Having discussed the subject of the Tualatin Hills swim meet, during which it was discovered that the pool was short, the Executive Committee MSA that the times from that meet would not count for official purposes. (Article 402.1.4)

The EC appreciates the OREG LMSC for being up front and forthright with the problem.

12. CANDIDATES RUNNING FOR ELECTION – It was recognized that while the pattern and practice of EC members refraining from taking positions publicly is not a written policy, it is considered appropriate.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 PM, EST

Respectfully submitted,
Sally Ann Dillon, USMS Secretary