

President Jim Miller called the meeting to order at 8:35 pm EDT. Present were Scott Rabalais, Sally Dillon, Doug Church, Lynn Hazlewood, Nancy Ridout, Patty Powis, and Tracy Grilli.

1. The next conference call will take place on Monday, November 15, at 8:30 pm EST.
2. DECISIONS MADE SINCE THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of the September 19 and September 27 EC meetings were approved and distributed to the HOD.

3. OFFICER REPORTS:

President: Jim reported that the considerations of converting from one national publication to another have caused questions surrounding the editorial content as presented within the upcoming issues of SWIM. He engaged in conversations with Bill Volckening and Phil Whitten regarding how to best serve the USMS athletes in the last two issues of SWIM. Jim presided over the opening dinner for the FINA SCM World Championships in Indy on 10/6. He made opening comments and welcomed FINA Bureau and FINA Technical Committee members in a ceremony conducted at the Indianapolis State Museum. Several masters were present including Michael Moore, Sandi Rousseau, Mel Goldstein, Doug Church, and Dick Sidner. The dinner was funded on the behalf of USMS by private contributions. There were many compliments paid to USMS by FINA. Many of the FINA members were instrumental in our successful bid for the 11th Masters Championships. Jim received an award from ASUS/UANA for assisting in helping with establishing the Masters Technical Committee. Jim chaired the two-day FINA Sports Medicine Congress that followed the Championships and he introduced a Masters tract. Joel Stager, PhD, presented the keynote address entitled "Special Needs for Masters Athletes, Observations on Aging Athletes: Swimming in the Fountain of Youth". Jim followed with data involving aging and the impact our sport has upon it, entitled "Masters Swimming – The Future is Now". Mary Pohlmann, MD, PhD, presented a paper entitled "Hormones, Menopause and Swimming Performance". Another paper in the master's tract was "Comparison of Endurance – Trained Veteran and Youth Male Swimmers" by David Gerrard, MD; a panel discussion followed.

Vice President: Scott reported that the Coaches Committee (Bob Bruce, chair) administered the Masters track at the ASCA World Clinic in Indianapolis recently. Presenters were USMS coaches Steven Fair, Bob Bruce and Scott Rabalais. The track was limited this year due to the clinic being held in conjunction with the SCM World Championships. Mel Goldstein (USMS Sponsor Liaison) headed the USMS booth in the exhibition hall, which promoted USMS over several days.

Secretary: Sally reported that she has been working on the minutes for the HOD – they were particularly time consuming this year. Her next project will be to tabulate the information from the exit survey. David Diehl (Officials chair) has sent an "Application to Officiate" for the 2005 USMS Short Course National Championships to USA Swimming for posting on their web site. It has proven to be a very effective means to attract USA certified officials who wish to gain National Championship experience. He has posted it on the USMS site as well. David also attended the World Aquatics Health Conference in Atlanta, GA and the meeting of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in Washington, DC in recent weeks. He had an opportunity to speak at each meeting about United States Masters Swimming and has written a report from each. The History and Archives Committee (Barbara Dunbar, chair) is eagerly awaiting the completion of administrative tools by the Webmaster or Assistant Webmaster so that the committee can start editing, adding, maintaining, etc., the H&A pages. Barbara has exchanged emails with SPI (SWIM Magazine) CEO, Brent Rutemiller, regarding the use of photographs.

Treasurer: Doug reported on a number of issues: 1. Post convention financial activities are still keeping Margaret Bayless (USMS Controller) and Doug busy. In spite of best efforts to avoid confusion with the hotel, we appear to have an issue with the master account and individual bills and are working to straighten them out. 2. The quarterly financial report just distributed shows we are closing the membership registration gap and may end the year on budget target for revenue. 3. The Finance

Committee has taken a break following convention although individual members continue to follow up with ideas for improvements. 4. The latest draft of the agreement for the 2006 FINA World Masters Championship has been sent to the organizing committee for comment. Hopefully, this will conclude in the next few weeks with a written agreement. Doug offered thanks to many for their suggestions. 5. The Planning Committee Task Force has continued to be extremely busy with drafting, conference calls, etc. The objective is to build on the actions of the HOD in 2004 in order to have a good and functional process for elections in 2005 as well as to prepare the next round of legislative proposals. Doug noted the hard work of the committee and the chair, Betsy Durrant. 6. Sports Medicine (Jessica Seaton, chair) has signed off on the grant request from the Counsilman Center for the Study of Swimming that was conditionally approved by the Board of Governors of the USMS Endowment Fund at convention and the grant will now be processed. 7. Investment returns continue to be monitored for opportunities to get better rates and to keep our reserves fully invested. 8. The FINA Bureau dinner hosted by USMS (through private donations) during the FINA SCM World Championships in Indianapolis was a resounding success! Doug offered thanks to Jim Miller, Sandi Rousseau, Dick Sidner, Mel Goldstein and Michael Moore for serving as hosts. The Worlds resulted in the largest non-Olympic attendance for a swim meet ever - over 72,000 showed up during the course of the meet. A local company was kind enough to provide arrangements for use of their corporate suite for two nights of the competition and several Masters swimmers were able to take advantage of the excellent facility. He expressed thanks to GRIN Treasurer, Randy Crutchfield and the Cinergy Corporation.

Zone Chair: Lynn reported that the *USMS SWIMMER* transition team met on Thursday, October 21 and approved the editorial content for the March/April issue. Virginia Sowers, Managing Editor from Douglas Murphy, and Bill Volckening, USMS National Publication Coordinator, will immediately begin distribution of assignments to feature writers and consultation with USMS Committees for development of department content. The Team also began future planning for management of the editorial content of the publication. The transition team will remain in place until after the second issue is published. At that time, a 5-person management group will be phased in, and will have the authority to make decisions on content. The group will consist of Bill Volckening, Virginia Sowers, the EC Liaison, a Communications Committee representative, and a yet to be determined fifth person. Lynn reported that the Communications Committee reviewed the position of National Publication Coordinator to determine if the changes of duties from USMS Editor to USMS National Publication Coordinator were significant enough that it was essentially a new position, requiring an RFP to fill the position (see #4 below). Finally, the Zone Committee, working independently and in consultation with the Governance Task Force, has nearly completed the revision of the Election Guidelines. The proposed amendments will be ready for BOD review shortly.

Legal Counsel: Patty reported that since our last meeting she has been dealing with grievances. The matters that have arisen relate to longstanding disputes in two LMSCs, one that is just now rising to the filing of formal grievances and the other that had some follow-up issues after final resolution. The former matter also involved some questions of insurance coverage. Patty is working on some sponsor renewal contracts for Mel Goldstein. Due to some changes occurring over the last two years, some tweaking of the contracts will be necessary before issuing renewals. Over the past few weeks, Patty has recorded comments about what various people want to see in our new National Publication contract and is working to merge the comments with our current contract and the contract that Douglas Murphy uses. The final product will be presented to the Finance Committee Chair for review. With regard to the new magazine, Patty noted that we were lucky to get some pro bono assistance from Leianne Crittendon's husband, a trademark attorney in California, whose firm did a quick search so that we would feel comfortable clearing the new magazine name for use. They did not find any possible infringement with regard to federally registered trademarks.

4. NATIONAL PUBLICATION COORDINATOR: The EC discussed the recommendation of the Communications Committee which was reported by Hugh Moore, chair, as follows: "At the request of the Executive Committee, the Communications Committee compared the job description for the new National Publication Coordinator position to that of the current USMS Magazine Editor position and determined that positions were similar and that the PMG did not require a new bid process. The Communications Committee passed the following motion with a vote of 15 to 1: 'The Communications

Committee recommends to the Executive Committee that Bill Volckening's contract be extended without opening the position for bids'."

5. NATIONAL PUBLICATION UPDATE: See Zone Chair and Legal Counsel officer reports above.
 - a. Business Plan: Doug reported that he has a draft of the narrative and will start on the spreadsheet.
7. MID-YEAR MEETING PLANS: Scott has made reservations at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Embassy Suites for January 6-9. He noted that Jim Montgomery has informed him that a workout location is close by. EC members will plan to arrive by 5 pm on Thursday and leave no earlier than 1 pm on Sunday.
8. WORLDS 2006 UPDATE: The promissory note was discussed and is in the process of being finalized.
9. ELECTION OPERATING GUIDELINES UPDATE: The EC discussed the EOG proposals. It was unclear as to whether the Governance Task Force had made a recommendation to the Zone Committee regarding the issue of allowing unsuccessful officer candidates to be able to run for director. Lynn will contact Betsy Durrant to get the Task Force's official position.
10. USMS REGISTRATION/MAGAZINE "OPT OUT OF FEE" ISSUE: A swimmer requested that they be able to register for USMS and not pay the fee set aside for the national publication. The EC affirmed that payment of all dues is required, even for those who do not want to receive the national publication. Patty will draft a statement that Tracy Grilli can use when responding to inquiries.
11. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Merchant account: Concerns have been expressed that the merchant account is not moving forward. Doug will take a look at the situation and noted that we may need to establish a banking relationship with another company and start the process again.

It was MSA to adjourn at 9:47 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary