

U.S. Masters Swimming — 2022 Meeting Minutes

Committee Name:	Legislation Committee	Session #:	7
Committee Chair:	Charles Cockrell	Vice Chair:	Stephanie Gauzens
Minutes recorded by:	Douglas Sayles	Date/Time:	July 13, 2022, 7:30 p.m. EDT

Motions Passed:

1. MSA to approve the June 27 meeting minutes.
2. MSA to approve the committee's interpretation of 506.2.1.

Number of voting committee members present: 10 # Absent: 2 # Guests: 0

Committee members present: Charles Cockrell, Rob Copeland, Stephanie Gauzens, Diana Dolan LaMar, Kristof Kertes, Teddy Palmer, Steve Peterson, Douglas Sayles, Meg Smath, Patrick Weiss

Committee Members absent: Jeffrey Enge, Kirsten Hoffman

Ex Officio present: Chris Colburn (VP Administration), Maria Elias (Legal Counsel)

Ex Officio absent: Mollie Grover (Rules Committee Chair), Dawson Hughes (CEO), Jessica Reilly (Sr. Director, Marketing Technology & Volunteer Services)

Minutes:

1. Roll Call

- a. The chair called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. EDT
- b. Quorum present.

2. Meeting Minutes

- a. MSA (Rob/Steve) to approve the minutes of the June 27 meeting.

3. Legislative Package for 2022 Annual Meeting

- a. The chair verified that there are no more amendment proposals for the committee to consider.
- b. Meg agreed to proofread the approved legislative package (L-1 through L-20).
- c. Consensus that the chair may make non-substantive corrections (e.g., spelling, grammar, formatting, references) to the approved legislative package if needed.

4. Regulation Interpretation Request

- a. The chair introduced a request from the USMS President to interpret the phrase "from each zone" in article 506.2.1 (Election and Term of Office of At-Large Directors).
- b. The committee considered and discussed:
 - i. LMSC (zone) registration versus residency.
 - ii. The history of the at-large director position and every director's responsibility to act in the best interest of all USMS members without zone bias.
 - iii. References in the code to LMSC registration and zone boundaries and other potentially relevant articles including 202.1.2, 202.2.1, 502, 503 and 505.2.1.
 - iv. [Election Operating Guidelines](#) regarding director candidate nominations and endorsements.
- c. The committee's discussion affirmed that:
 - i. There is no explicit or inferred zone residency requirement for director candidates in the code.
 - ii. The code does not define "nominated by that zone." However, per article 506.2.3, election operating guidelines apply, which state that a director candidate must be nominated by a USMS

member registered in the same zone as the candidate. Therefore, in practice “nominated by the zone” refers to the individual nominator in that zone, not the zone as a collective nominator.

- iii. Per the EOG, a zone (through a vote of zone member delegates) may collectively endorse or not endorse one or more candidates for at-large director from that zone, but such endorsement (or lack thereof) does not affect a duly nominated candidate’s ability to stand for election.
- d. **MSA** (Doug/Meg) to approve the following formal interpretation:

The Legislation Committee interprets the phrase “from each zone” in article 506.2.1 as pertaining to a candidate’s LMSC registration at the time of election. There is no requirement to be a resident of that zone.

Once elected the board member’s LMSC registration is no longer pertinent for the duration of that term.

Should the board member change LMSC registration prior to the next election, the incumbent candidate must be nominated by the current zone of registration to run for a second consecutive term.

5. Other Business

- a. The vice president of Administration requested that the committee meet again in August. This meeting will be separate from the pre-annual-meeting Legislation Forum where delegates can ask questions and comment on the published legislative package.

(These meetings were subsequently scheduled for Monday, August 15, at 7:30 p.m. EDT and Thursday, September 8, at 8 p.m. EDT, respectively. Both meetings will be open to all current USMS members.)

6. Adjournment

- a. **MSA** (Diana, Meg) motion to adjourn.
- b. The chair adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m. EDT