
USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

BREADBASKET ZONE – Anthony Thompson



LMSC: Missouri Valley

Consent-to-Run: I, Anthony Thompson, am interested in running for BOD member from Breadbasket Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

San Diego CA 2003, Orlando FL 2004, Greensboro NC 2005, Dearborn MI 2006, & Anaheim CA 2007

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

The BOD would provide me an opportunity to be part of the dialog with our membership to meet our common vision to retain and grow our membership.

The qualification of a candidate for elected office within any organization should be a natural progression toward leadership, and my tenure in USMS includes chairing of my LMSC, then attending conventions and actively participating in meetings as well as HOD discussions, serving on USMS committees, election to Zone Committee, and currently chairing a USMS committee. During my tenure at the national level, I have been active within our Zone and can provide insight about how smaller LMSCs function.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Executive Director – securing and establishing the function on this position
Succession Planning – within LMSCs, USMS Committees, the Executive Committee, BOD, and National Office Employees. Leadership development within all levels of this volunteer-based organization are key.

Retention and Recruitment of Membership – support effort of the already created Task Force on Club Development, with an emphasis on worked groups with coaches as well as support on-going projects by Marketing Committee and alliances with other masters/fitness/aquatics organizations.

Continued Review of USMS Governance Structure – With the current alignment of EC and BOD in place, the review of the current Zone and LMSC boundaries should be undertaken to see if the structure serves the membership.

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Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Safety & Education (Julie Heather) 2004-5

Rules (Leo Letendre and Kathy Casey) 2004-2007

International (Sandi Rousseau, Mary Pohlmann, and Anthony Thompson) 2004- current

Zone Committee (Julie Heather) 2005-current

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

BOD for Kansas City Corporate Challenge (27-sport competition between corporations in KC metro over 7-weeks each summer, which includes a swim meet with 800 participants) with a focus on facilitating the 1200+ volunteers (from the 160+ company that participate) to smoothly operate these competitions.

USMS Convention Workshops – 2 years facilitated LMSC Chair workshop

In professional life, I have been a lead member of committees to develop and implement training programs.

Within our LMSC, I have served as:

- Missouri Valley LMSC Chair – 2003-2008
- Missouri Valley Fitness Chair – 1999-2003 and 2008-current
- Co-Meet director for local swim meets, including the Mizzou SCM Championship in Dec 2006 & Dec 2007.

Please list any other information you would like included.

None.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

USMS is more than an organization, it is a diverse community. We are fitness and competitive swimmers; we swim in open water, pools and in postal events. We share a common vision that aquatic sports are lifelong venture and welcome members who are young and mature, with a variety of abilities and interests, and participate at the local, regional, zone, national and international events to support and grow our community. We need to be active in the local communities and partner with other adult fitness organizations who share our vision starting with USAS. Given a chance to be on the USMS BOD, I will first listen to the membership, invite and discuss input, and work to implement ways to retain, strengthen and grow our membership; as well as work to sustain our organization through developing leaders from our diverse membership.

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Letters of nomination and recommendation:

May 13, 2008
Laurie Reaburn
11617 Bond Street
Overland Park, KS, 66210

To whom it may concern,

By means of this letter, I, Laurie Reaburn nominate Anthony Thompson, as the USMS Board of Directors member from the Breadbasket Zone.



Laurie Reaburn
MOVY Masters Co-Chair
11617 Bond Street
Overland Park, KS 66210
913.217.7384 work
913.220.4250 cell

Date: May 14, 2008
To: Election Committee, United States Masters Swimming, Inc.
From: Anna Lea Roof, USMS Board of Directors
Subject: Letter of Recommendation for Anthony Thompson

I am writing to recommend Anthony Thompson as a candidate for the position of At-Large Director of United States Masters Swimming, Inc.

Anthony moved to the Kansas City area in 1993 and began competing in Masters swim meets shortly thereafter. Within a few years he was active within the Missouri Valley LMSC, first serving as the Fitness Chairman and eventually serving five years as the LMSC Chairman.

Under Anthony's direction our small LMSC greatly increased its offerings. In 2007, the LMSC issued sanctions or recognitions for 14 different events. Anthony and I run several of these events each year. He is always motivated and focused on getting the job done.

At a national level, Anthony has been an active member of several committees, including Rules and Fitness. His interest in international travel and competition (he has swum in four FINA Masters world championships) resulted in him assuming the Chair position of the International committee. Under his leadership as the Breadbasket Zone representative, he assisted the Iowa LMSC in sending a delegate to the USMS convention (they had not attended for many years).

Anthony and I have become good friends and work well together. He has a good understanding of USMS at all levels – local, regional, and national. I strongly recommend him for the position of At-Large Director of USMS.

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MEMO TO: Election Committee Chair
United States Masters Swimming
FROM: Jill Geller
Superintendent of Recreation, Johnson County Park and Recreation District
DATE: May 15, 2008
RE: Letter of Reference for Anthony Thompson

Please accept this letter of reference for Anthony Thompson in support of his nomination to serve on the USMS Board of Directors. I have worked with Anthony in various capacities for more than a decade.

As the previous Executive Director of the Kansas City Corporate Challenge, the largest corporate (olympic-type) games event in the country, I had the privilege to interact with Anthony frequently. He served as the Company Coordinator for his employer, Bayer Corporation. In this role it was his responsibility to organize Bayer employees' participation in the Games, which included recruiting employee-athletes for various events, communicating with these employees as to their event time, location, schedule, etc., communicating with the Kansas City Corporate Challenge office to ensure efficient exchange of information, and the overall administration of his company's participation in this huge event.

Anthony exhibited a level of excellence in his responsibilities as Company Coordinator which resulted in his being elected to serve on the 2003 Kansas City Corporate Challenge Board of Directors. He was a very effective Board Member, and was always willing to share his knowledge and challenge staff to improve upon this already successful event. One of Anthony's main responsibilities as a Board Member was to organize the more than 1,400 volunteers necessary to conduct the games. He provided each of the 164 companies involved with an assigned event, the number of volunteers needed, their volunteers' duties, and the dates, times, and location at which their service was required. With 27 events and more than 20,000 participants in the KCCC Games, this was no easy task. But Anthony completed the task efficiently and effectively. Anthony continued his service to the KCCC past 2003 by serving as an Ambassador, providing guidance and counsel to new companies entering the games for the first time. In both his role as a Board Member and Ambassador, he also provided valuable assistance in the on-site administration of events.

As the Superintendent of Recreation for the Johnson County Park and Recreation District, I had the opportunity to work with Anthony as he served on the Advisory Committee for our Roeland Park Aquatic Center. This Advisory Committee provides advice and counsel to staff to ensure that the Aquatic Center is operating at its full potential. Anthony was an integral part of this team due to his swimming expertise. He provided input and suggestions from the participant's point of view which enabled us to better meet their needs. He objectively considered issues or concerns and thoughtfully weighed all options to help determine the best course of action.

Anthony's experience, in the areas of sports administration and the oversight of large scale operations and events, make him an excellent candidate for the US Masters Swimming Board of Directors. Feel free to contact me if you need additional information. Thank you.

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COLONIES ZONE – Betsy Durrant



LMSC: Virginia

Consent-to-Run: I, Betsy Durrant, am interested in running for BOD member from Colonies Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

*Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:
1987 - 2007*

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

This is an important time for USMS as we continue our transition into the new governance format. I believe I have contributions to make as a member of the BOD. I am chairing a BOD committee on Policy and would like to complete this project.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Hiring an Executive Director and transitioning to a more professionally run administration is an important issue. At the same time, the BOD must assist the LMSCs and clubs to be productive and to serve our members. We cannot rely on paid staff to do everything, our leaders must be involved with local issues. I am president of my team and edit a monthly newsletter for my team and for my LMSC. I work hard to be in touch with our members.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Zone Committee. 1986-1991. Colonies Zone Rep.

Zone Chairs: Dory Schwab, Edie Gruender, Pat Maley.

Executive Committee. 1991-1995. Zone Chair.

Presidents: Dan Gruender and Mel Goldstein

Executive Committee. 1997-2001, Secretary.

President: Nancy Ridout

Planning Committee and Governance Task Force. Chair 2002-2006.

President: Jim Miller

Finance Committee. 2002 – Present.

Chairs: Tom Boak, Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis

BOD. 2005 – Present.

President: Rob Copeland

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Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

LMSC Chair – 4 years

LMSC Registrar – 11 years

LMSC and Team Newsletter Editor – 11 or 12 years and still at it.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Dorothy Donnelly Service Award, 1997

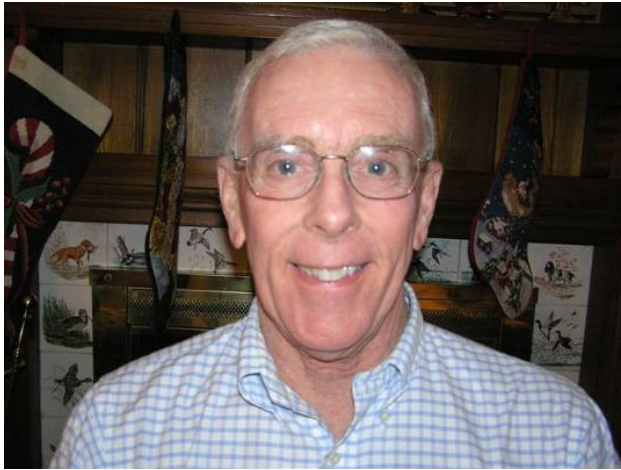
Ransom Arthur Award, 2005

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

After chairing the Governance Task Force, I decided to run for a position on the Board of Directors three years ago because I wanted to be involved in implementing the new governance structure. The new structure involves a larger Executive Committee and a smaller, more active Board of Directors. So far, I think the structure is working well. However, we still have not fully worked out the role of the Executive Director. I would like to continue in this position while the BOD works with a new Executive Director to fully implement our new governance format. I am also involved with a project to compile USMS Policy that I would like to complete.

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DIXIE ZONE – Jerry Clark



LMSC: LMSC for NC

Consent-to-Run: I, Jerry Clark, am interested in running for BOD member from Dixie Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

1999 - 2007

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

Because I've been the Dixie Zone at large director for the past three years, and as such, have been involved with a number of projects during those years. I very much want to continue further work in the upcoming years as new and exciting opportunities are investigated. I am a proactive person and sincerely interested in helping make USMS more attractive to the many adult swimmers who don't seem to want to join. I solicit any opportunity to do productive work toward the goal of increasing our membership.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Stagnation of membership is a major issue facing USMS and it is being addressed by a Club Development Task Force. I believe a primary reason adults will want to join USMS and remain as members is if they can participate in coached workouts. Therefore I would endeavor to work with the coaches committee to explore more ways to connect workout groups around the country to prospective coaches. Then direct communication could take place between the two parties. I also think USMS should expand its horizons by becoming more proactive about joint relationships with large groups and/or organizations that share our goal of promoting adult fitness.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Rules – Kathy Casey; Legislation – Rob Copeland; Championship – Sandi Rousseau, Barry Fasbender and Mark Moore; Coaches – Mo Chambers

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Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

I am used to dealing with the principals of large organizations that want assistance with commercial real estate transactions. I am a good team builder. I am a good team player. I am tenacious when working on worthwhile projects with reasonable goals and I enjoy either leading or being a member of a group working continuously toward the objectives.

Please list any other information you would like included.

I consider myself as a “people person”. I have enjoyed meeting and getting to know many people in all facets of USMS. I have participated in 23 National Championship meets and 3 World meets. I have been meet director of a 200+/- person meet in my home town for the past 10 years. I have been Chairman of the LMSC for NC two times and have also been the treasurer of our LMSC for 6 years.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I have always believed in contributing to sports I participate in and I’ve always enjoyed meeting and getting to know the other participants in those sports. I genuinely want to help make USMS more attractive to adults in areas that, like us in North Carolina, do not have multiple clubs that have coached workouts.

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GREAT LAKES ZONE – Nadine Day



LMSC: ILLINOIS

Consent-to-Run: I, Nadine KM Day, am interested in running for BOD member from Great Lakes Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year:

Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year:

Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office:

Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

United States Master Swimming is an outstanding organization dedicated to swimming, which has and continues to be my life's passion. I provide a youthfulness approach to masters swimming. Being involved with the strategic plan, I feel that I have an obligatory duty to fulfill the plan to assist in the succession of USMS. I am committed to USMS and feel privilege to have served on the BOD for the past three years.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

A critical issue for USMS is what I characterize as our non-thriving membership. I believe we can and must marshal our governance to collaborate with USA Swimming, ASCA, YMCA, universities/colleges and other organizations to make USMS more visible not only to those constituents who desire competition but also to those potential constituents with a fitness-oriented focus.

I believe that USMS can become more unified within the organization between LMSCs. The LMSCs are closer to the members than the national organization as a whole. Supporting the LMSC and supporting clubs will grow our membership. This will promote aquatic fitness for all ages and promote USMS.

USMS has a strategic plan and implementation of the strategic plan belongs with the committees under the guidance of the BOD. As a board member, I would like to see USMS redirect the focus of the BOD and shift towards a staff oriented implementation under the leadership of the executive director. The BOD needs to serve as policy-making body and to support programs of USMS.

I strongly believe that USMS needs national office and this will give USMS a national presence. This will help streamline daily activities and improve on communication within the organization.

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Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Marketing Committee 2003 to current

Sports Medicine 2003-2007

Safety Education 2004-2005

Publications Committee 2005-2007

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Within the first year of my master swimming career in Illinois, I became the sanction chair. The following year, I was elected Vice Chair. Since September 2005, I have served as the Chair of Illinois LMSC. At the 2004 convention, I served as the interim Great Lakes Zone Chair. I have been serving on the USMS BOD since 2005 as the Great Lakes Director and would like to continue my role on the USMS BOD.

Prior to co-owning a private physical therapy practice, I was a Director of Rehabilitation overseeing physical therapist, occupational therapist and speech therapist. I was responsible for the budget and hiring of staff, in addition to working contract employees. I also served on the administrative board of a rural hospital. I was employed as a Clinical Administrator for a Physicians own practice working with Administrators, Physicians and Physical Therapist and Athletic Trainers. I served on the BOD of the Champaign County YMCA for 2 years. I am a high school girl's swimming coach.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Task Force:

Compensation and Benefits: Chair

Club Development

Executive Director Search

National Office Search

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I wish to submit my nomination for re-election of the Great Lakes Zone Board of Directors position. Leadership, advocacy, and administrative roles in my professional life outfit me for the Board of Directors position. USMS provides individuals an opportunity to fulfill their lifelong passion. My passion for, and commitment to, swimming, in all of its many facets, will serve as my guidepost in my delivery of services to USMS as a member of its Board of Directors.

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NORTHWEST ZONE – Jeanne Ensign



LMSC: Pacific Northwest

Consent-to-Run: I, Jeanne Ensign, am interested in running for BOD member from Northwest Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

1992 - 2007

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

This continues to be a very exciting time for USMS. Having been a member of the BOD for the last three years has given me the opportunity to participate in many compelling projects and discussions. Online registration and adapting to more employees, including an ED, are among the many projects, present increasingly more complex opportunities to help shape USMS going forward. I find taking an organizational vision and putting a plan into action exciting and want to continue to be a part of it.

I bring good communication, leadership and organizational skills developed in my professional life, along with my USMS experience, including four years on the Executive Committee. I can get things done, know how to delegate responsibilities, can identify and think well about issues, and can take care of work in a timely fashion. I have been active in my zone, and in both a large and a small LMSC. I understand our ultimate goal – to provide for individual swimmers. I have the intellect and the skills necessary to be a good board member and, last but not least, the desire to do so.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

We continue to experience growth and the tough decisions related to it. Through it all we must continue to keep our membership foremost in our mission, goals and objectives. USMS has gained respect from others for the professional manner in which we provide for and service our membership, and we strive to create fitness opportunities for all swimmers, all ages no matter their swimming goals.

We need to continue to communicate among ourselves and with our volunteers, employees and most of all with our swimmer/members. How do we relay information to individuals and make it understandable in a way that is meaningful to them? We need to focus on our teams and

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swimmers through the website and the magazine, and to work with the communications an individual member experiences.

Our website is a major communications tool, and demands on it are likely to continue to increase. We need to continually define our communications strategy and the dissemination of information, and to financially support communications within the organization and with our current and potential members.

We must continue to focus on and provide resources to individuals, teams and clubs, which is where the action is. How can we help provide pool time, coaching and clinics? We must create programs to we can offer support for swimmers at the local level. We must learn how to assess our progress and accomplishments.

And last, while doing what it is we do, we must provide a framework within which our national staff and volunteers (including the BOD) can accomplish the most with the least amount of effort. We need to learn to work with our Executive Director. We need to clearly and simply define our goals and expectations for each position, task forces and committees. It is the responsibility of the BOD to provide oversight to this process.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Executive Committee, Treasurer 1997 – 2001, Nancy Ridout, President

Endowment Fund Board of Governors, 1997 – 2001, Doug Church

Finance Committee, 1994 – 1997 and 2002 – present, Chair (96-97) and under chairs Dave Zander, Doug Church, Jeff Moxie, Ralph Davis

Internal Audit Committee, 1993 – 1995, 2006 – 2007 Chair

Registration Committee, 1992 – 1993, Joanne Leilich

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

USMS member since 1985, delegate to convention since 1992, active at the Zone, LMSC (immediate past president PNA), and team level, organizing committee member and treasurer for three national championship pool meets, devoted swimmer

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

The swimming community has been a big part of my life for many years. Early on I figured out that if I volunteer time in an administrative and visionary capacity, which I love to do, the benefits I receive in exchange are huge. If I can contribute to more opportunities for swimmers to get in the water and enhance their lives by providing more pool time, a coached workout or a first class meet, I get something back that is very rewarding and difficult to define. I get to swim. I can always find a buddy for an early morning lake swim. I make new friends. I consider it time well spent.

Sometimes it's hard to see results locally, but the work we do at the national level is vital to the health of our entire masters swimming community. The BOD provides vision and planning, and monitors the progress and effectiveness of our organization. As a lifelong resident of my zone and an active member of USMS for over 20 years, I believe that I will continue to make a positive contribution as director from the Northwest Zone.

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OCEANA ZONE – Michael Moore

LMSC: Pacific LMSC

Consent-to-Run: I, Michael Moore, am interested in running for BOD member from Oceana Zone.

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

With the exception of 2001, I have attended all USMS conventions since 1993

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have served as an LMSC chairman, multiple USMS Committee and have run a very successful international swim meet. I am familiar with the problems that face USMS near term and long term. With my background and experience, I can help guide US Masters Swimming

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

USMS is in transition from an all volunteer national governing body to a more professionally managed one. As a member of the Board of Directors with much experience I can help shape the policy that the staff will work under.

As USMS looks strategically at where to give help to grow the organization, there are two areas. The first are the clubs. USMS needs successful clubs to attract members, as chairman of an LMSC with over 100 clubs, I am familiar with the many types of club organizations. I can bring my experience to help guide the club strategy of USMS.

Another major issue is how to help and guide LMSCs. Having worked in my LMSC for the past 15 years, I have seen many ideas that have worked and others that have been less successful. I can help with policy as the Board of Directors considers how to assist LMSCs.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Communication Committee

Officials Committee

Rules Committee

Ad hoc Web committee

Ad hoc Officials Committee

Championships Committee

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Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Am the webmaster for Pacific Masters that experience keeps me up to date on the issues facing swimmers.

As a member of a national bank's Board of Directors, I am familiar with what boards can and should be doing.

Please list any other information you would like included.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

Michael Moore is currently a member of the USMS Board of Directors. He is also the chairman of Pacific Masters swimming. Michael has worked in his LMSC for the past 15 years and has been a member of the House of Delegates for the past 15 years. Michael was also chairman of the organizing committee of the XI FINA World Masters Championships.

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SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE – Chuck Burr



LMSC: North Texas

Consent-to-Run: I, Chuck Burr, am interested in running for BOD member from South Central Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes _____ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes _____ No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes _____ No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

2004 and 2007.

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I have been the Head Swim Coach for Team Ridglea Masters – Fort Worth, Texas – since I started the team 7 years ago (approximately 100 members). I would like to represent my team, the North Texas LMSC and the South Central Zone on the national level. I feel my enthusiasm and passion for masters swimming could be shared throughout the country.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

I feel that tapping into the high interest in the sport of triathlon could benefit USMS. Here we have a huge group of athletes that need the expertise that USMS can provide. We need them and they need us.

I realize that 75% of all registered masters swimmers don't compete, AND DON'T WANT TO! We need to understand this better and address these members' needs more directly.

We need to encourage more people that participate with a registered USMS team to become registered with USMS. I firmly believe that there are thousands of people that participate with USMS clubs that never bother to register. If we were to give each coach an incentive (idea: 0-20 registered members – the coach receives a USMS pen/pencil set; 21-40 registered members – the coach receives a USMS coaching shirt; 41-60 registered members – the coach receives a USMS travel bag; etc.) to get ALL their members registered, we would see a dramatic increase in the overall numbers of members.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

USMS Coaches Committee – Chairperson Mo Chambers; 2005, 2006, 2007, and current.

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

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Founder of Team Ridglea (www.teamridglea.com) – team finish at last summers national swimming championships in The Woodlands – 20th place; Current masters swimmer – competes regularly on the local and national level; Active ‘On-Deck’ Coach at USMS National Swimming Championships; conducted organized workout for coaches in Anaheim at the USMS Convention in September 2007; Featured masters swim coach in the March/April issue of ‘USMS Swimmer’; current ‘On-Line’ swim coach for USMS – submitting daily organized, structured swim practices on ww.usms.org; currently serves as Coaches Liaison for North Texas Masters swim committee; Director/Co-Head Swim Coach for Water Works 2 Swim Team (USS age-group team in Fort Worth, Texas – 100 member club).

Please list any other information you would like included.

2 – Time Ironman Triathlon finisher (Wisconsin – 2006, Florida – 2007); Swimming professional for the nationally acclaimed Texas Triathlon Camp (www.texastricamp.com) – with Joel Friel and Tom Rogers. B.S. from Texas A& M University – 1979; M.Ed. from Texas Christian University – 1981; partial completion of Ph.D. from University of Texas at Arlington – Urban Affairs.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I have been involved in masters swimming for the past 7 years. I feel it is time for me to become more active on the national level and use the experience I have as a USMS coach and swimmer to share my ideas and passion for the sport.

Letters of Nomination and Recommendation:

To: USMS Nomination Committee

From: Jill Gellatly

Re: Charles (“Chuck”) Burr

I would like to place the name of Chuck Burr in nomination for the South Central At-Large Board of Director position.

Chuck has been active in the aquatic arena for over forty years. Over this time span, his roles have evolved from athlete, to coaching at a variety of levels, facility management and serving as owner and president of a pool service company. These varied experiences more than qualify him for the SC Zone BOD position and make him a tremendous asset to our National BOD.

Chuck’s career started young as a successful collegiate swimmer including qualifying for five national championships and the 1980 Olympic Trials. His success as a swimmer led him into the collegiate coaching ranks where he gained valuable coaching and administrative skills. After two years of collegiate coaching, he started full-time employment at a local Fort Worth country club. He eventually became the full-time aquatic director responsible for personnel administration (over 48 employees under his direction), budget analyses and overall operation of the entire aquatic facility. During this tenure, he also started his own business (a pool service

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company) which grew to over \$1 million in annual sales. Concurrent with these responsibilities, he built and coached an age group swim team and eventually started a Masters team in 2001. This team has grown to over one hundred swimmers. His dedication to tasks and building ideas from the grass roots is second to none.

Once his USMS club (Team Ridglea) was established, Chuck became involved at the local level (North Texas LMSC) and has attended the last two National conventions. He currently serves on the Coaches committee, has written articles for SWIM magazine and is active in local triathlon community (he is s a two-time Ironman finisher). Chuck believes our biggest obstacle in USMS is growth and determining how best to attract new members including integrating triathletes into the USMS community. He recognizes not all potential members will want to compete and we need to market our organization better to address these concerns.

Chuck's diverse background, demonstrated leadership qualities and his vision and passion for USMS will help take USMS to the next level.

I highly recommend the USMS Membership to consider Chuck Burr for the SC Zone At-Large BOD position.

I grant permission to include this letter in his nomination packet.

May 14, 2008

Ms. Julie Heather
Chair of the Election Committee
United States Masters Swimming

Dear Julie,

It is with pleasure that I recommend Chuck Burr to serve on the Board of Directors representing the South Central Zone. Chuck has been an advocate for swimming on numerous levels and takes an active interest in Masters Swimming and the promotion of fitness and competitive swimming.

Chuck has been involved in swimming on the age group, collegiate and Masters levels. He has been a swimmer, coached age group swimmers beginning two United States Swimming programs, and enlarging a country club swim program to be the dominant program in the Fort Worth area. In 2001, he founded the Team Ridglea Masters growing the program from 5 swimmers to 100 offering 18 practices a week. His swimmers have achieved record performances at the Zone, National and World levels. Chuck also serves as an On Deck Coach at National events.

Chuck strives to learn more about swimming and holds numerous clinics to pass the information on to his Masters swimmers, his age group swimmers, and the community. He brings in past Olympic and collegiate swimmers to help host clinics, and he himself has been a presenter of pool and open water sessions.

Additionally, Chuck is devoted to his wife, Debbie, and their four children.

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

I think you can see that Chuck has a vested interest in the future of USMS and will be a strong advocate for the South Central Zone on the Board of Directors. Please contact me if I may provide further information

Sincerely yours,
Kristin Henderson

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

SOUTH CENTRAL ZONE – Don Mehl



LMSC: Border

Consent-to-Run: I, Don Mehl, am interested in running for BOD member from South Central Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year:

Yes *No*

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year:

Yes *No*

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: *Yes* *No*

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have

attended, including the dates of attendance:

I have attended every USMS National HOD Meeting at the last 22 consecutive USAS Conventions, 1986 to 2007.

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

The majority of older Americans currently living in Assisted Care Facilities are there, not because of disease, but because of physical frailty. That is a crime! Those of us who enjoy the enormous fitness and fellowship benefits of Masters swimming must dedicate ourselves to “sharing the wealth” by promoting swimming to everyone, of every age and condition. During my 30 years with Masters swimming as an administrator, coach, and competitor I have developed strong local adult swimming and dryland training programs. I have also worked at the National level for 22 years, learning from many other USMS members how to utilize our resources to encourage and motivate adults to improve their lives with Masters swimming.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

The issue that first comes to mind is the position of Executive Director. I was very disappointed with the initial selection process, which determined our first Director. It is important, of course, to hire someone with considerable administrative experience, but I believe it is just as critical that they “eat, sleep, and breathe” Masters swimming! In my 30 years with USMS I have met many remarkable people who have accomplished amazing things for this organization. I am adamant that our next Executive Director be someone who has love and enthusiasm for Masters swimming and the desire to move us forward.

Another issue that I believe USMS should vigorously pursue is joint participation activities with other aquatic/athletic organizations such as USA swimming, USA Triathlon, Senior Games, Special Olympics, Paralympics, etc. Although USMS has liaisons or contacts with most of these groups, I believe more should be done at the local level. Many communities have benefited from coordination and consolidation in regards to administration, coaching, securing water time, and training officials.

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

USMS and USA Swimming could both greatly benefit from a large number of potential swimming officials from USMS members. However, USMS members are required to register separately (and pay additional registration fees) to USA Swimming to be certified. Why do USMS swimmers need a 2nd registration? USMS and USA Swimming are insured by the same company for the same coverage. I will work to help streamline and facilitate training and certification of officials for USMS members.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Various years, 1986-2007:

Coaches Committee Judy Bonning, Steve Schofield, Mike Collins, Scott Rabalais, Ed Nessel, Bob Bruce, Mo Chambers

Sports Medicine Committee Jim Miller, Jane Moore, Jessica Seaton

Safety Committee (Ad Hoc) Chair unknown

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

As Masters swimming administrator, coach, and competitive athlete:

1978 – founded and coached the first United States Masters Swimming program for adults in El Paso at the Central YWCA

1980 to 2000 – served as LMSC Chair for Border Swimming

1985 to 2005 – founded and coached the Rio Grande Swim Club

1986 to Present – represented Border USMS and USA Swimming at United States Aquatic Sports (USAS) conferences, as delegate and serving on Sports Medicine, Safety, and Coaches Committees for USMS

1991 to 1993 – chaired USMS Coaches Committee

1997 to 2004 – developed and taught the Swimming Smarter program for swimmers of all ages at the University of Texas at El Paso

2001 – interned and coached Masters swimmers at the USMS/USA High Altitude Training Camp at the United States Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, Colorado

2004 – attended the Adapted Swimming Training Camp at the USOTC, which trains swimmers with disabilities

Authored articles for Swim Magazine, Masters Aquatic Coaches Association Newsletter, and on the USMS website

Currently certified as USA Swimming and UIL Swimming Official

2000 and 2006 – meet director for the USMS South Central Zone Long Course Swimming Championships

1978 to Present – competed in numerous local, regional, state, national, and world competitions, achieving All-American status (2006) and many Top-10 rankings

Honored to receive the 2005 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award

As Medical Training Captain and Health and Fitness Coordinator for the El Paso Fire Department:

Coordinate and oversee Medical (EMS) and Health and Fitness training for fire department recruits and veterans

Provide education, motivation, and hands-on fitness training to 800+ emergency fire and medical personnel

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Manage 60+ Certified Fitness Coordinators (American College of Sports Medicine) stationed throughout El Paso who provide guidance and support to other firefighters in their respective districts

Coordinate and monitor annual medical physicals for all emergency personnel with contracted Health Care Provider

Liaison with City Employee Assistance Program for stress management and debriefing

Research, recommend, purchase, and distribute physical fitness equipment for 40 fire stations, administration, and support facilities

Develop and instruct various health related courses to recruits and veterans, such as: Back Injury Prevention, Performance Nutrition, Exercise Science, CrossFit Training Protocol, and Emergency Scene Safety

Produce and edit monthly *Health & Fitness Update* newsletter

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

I am honored to be nominated for the position of South Central Zone Director.

As the US population ages, adult fitness will continue to grow, and USMS should lead the way. We must promote swimming to everyone, regardless of age or ability. I bring a unique perspective to USMS, as I have worked in every capacity for our LMSC, including 20-years as Chair and 22 years as the USAS delegate. I have been directly involved in United States Masters Swimming as a coach, administrator, and competitor since 1978. I have the knowledge, passion, and skills to help develop growth and continuing interest in Masters swimming.

Letters of Nomination and Recommendation:

April 29, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I hereby nominate Don Mehl for the position of South Central Zone Director. Don's life long swimming experience and participation across all levels of the organization lends itself well to this position. Groups like ours need people like Don assuming leadership positions that benefit all levels of the organization.

Don's qualifications for this position are built on the foundation of being a lifelong swimmer, a tireless competitor, a knowledgeable coach, an LMSC Board member and a loyal USMS member. Don is the founder of Masters Swimming here in the Border LMSC, which is primarily located in El Paso, Texas. With his enthusiasm for the sport, the Rio Grande Swim Club was formed shortly after USMS came together as an organization. Without Don's time and inspiration, our club would not be as vital or as successful as it is today. Over the years whatever has needed doing, from coaching on deck at 6AM, to attending business meetings, to directing zone meets, Don has done it all for us while asking for little in return.

On the national level, Don has attended countless USAS conventions (many at his own expense) to ensure that we, as one of the smallest LMSCs, still had our voice heard. His participation made us aware of what was going on in our sport outside our LMSC and kept us in the loop on national issues. While many would think that our small group would go unrepresented at national events, Don seems to find a way to either represent us himself or encourage someone to answer the roll when "Border LMSC" is called.

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Positions such as Zone Director require someone who is well versed in all aspects of our sport, reliable and able to see the big picture. I can't think of many people who fit this profile as well as Don Mehl.

Please feel free to publish my nomination/recommendation.

Sincerely,

Robert Oppenheim

Border LMSC Registrar

April 29, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am honored to write this letter of recommendation for my friend, Don Mehl, for the position of South Central Zone Director. It was 12 years ago that I signed up for a swimming class and where I met coach Don.

Don has a persevering commitment for swimming. In 1978 he had the initiative to start the first Masters swimming program at our local YWCA. We now we have 2 swim clubs registered with Border LMSC. Using his interpersonal skills, Don attained the first coached adult swim program at the University of Texas at El Paso. For over a decade he single handedly coached over 60 swimmers a session, clearly a willingness to accept responsibility. Despite obstacles in the program, Don remained dependable and mature and always put his swimmers first.

Don loves swimming. For over 50 years Don has poured his heart out for swimming and has dedicated more than 30 years to the United States Masters Swimming organization. Don is a competitive swimmer, husband, a father of 2 girls who also swim competitively, and still finds time to contribute his direction for our swim club. He is an exceptional, creative, motivating leader.

It is my extreme pleasure to recommend Don Mehl for the position of South Central Zone Director. I feel that his experience, education, and good moral character will provide a solid backbone to your mission.

Should you require any additional information, please do not hesitate to call me. You may publish my nominee recommendation.

Very Respectfully Submitted,

Jane H. Masters

Border LMSC Chairperson

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

SOUTHWEST ZONE – Laura Winslow



LMSC: Arizona

Consent-to-Run: I, Laura Winslow, am interested in running for BOD member from Southwest Zone

Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: Yes No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: Yes No

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

San Diego, CA 2003, Orlando, FL 2004, Greensboro, NC 2005, Detroit, MI 2006, Anaheim, CA 2007

Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

I am passionate about masters swimming and USMS. Since 2003 I have been a USMS volunteer on the local and national level. I have a strong desire to serve USMS, grow the organization, and give back to the sport and organization that has given me so much.

My unique background as a CPA, a controller for a swim club, masters swim coach and an assistant swim meet/event organizer offers the organization key knowledge and energy in areas that are important for its growth.

As a current BOD member I have had the opportunity to chair several committees and have been a valuable member of several task forces. I have enjoyed my service and demonstrated that I can get the job done.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future. As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Leadership, growth, communication, coaching and member services are areas I see as critical to the health of our organization. I bring my enthusiasm and knowledge and will continue to volunteer for participation on sub-committees and task forces to address these issues.

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

International 2003 – 2005; Sandy Rousseau

Championship 2004 – 2005; Barry Fasbender

Long Distance/Open Water 2007 – current; Marcia Cleveland

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

CPA

Swim club controller

USMS AT-LARGE DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Swim meet/event director/organizer
Current member of BOD
Chaired first ED Search Committee
Chaired Dues Increase Task Force
Current Member National Headquarters Task Force
Former Sanctions Chair for Arizona LMSC
Former Competition Committee Chair for Arizona LMSC
Masters swim coach
Head coach for boys and girls high school swim and dive team

Please list any other information you would like included.

I am a professional who brings knowledge, experience, and energy to this position. I also possess the drive and determination to help the organization grow through the many obstacles it is facing, such as the hiring of its second Executive Director, the establishment of a National Headquarters, etc.

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

It is an exciting time for USMS as we undergo numerous changes. I want to assist by continuing to lead the organization and helping to take us to the next level.