

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Championship Committee Interview for SPIRE	<b>Session #:</b>	1	<b>Report #:</b>	1
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Jeff Roddin	<b>Vice Chair:</b>	Kim Crouch		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Ed Saltzman	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	Mon, July 11, 2016; 12pm EDT		

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## Motions Passed:

1. None

<b>Number of committee members present:</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>Absent:</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>Number of other delegates present:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):</b> Jeff Roddin, Barry Fasbender, Don Gilchrist, Sandi Rousseau, Ed Saltzman, Jeff Strahota, Charlie Tupitza, Natalie Taylor, Kyle Deery (ExO); Jack Eckert (USMS National Office)					
<b>Others in Attendance from Bidder:</b> Chris Stancliff – SPIRE Event Manager, Josh Ptak - Meet Director/Aquatic Facilities Director; Jeff Orloff – SPIRE COO (Oversees Planning); Thad Schultz – SPIRE Aquatics Director; Mike Mulhall – Greater Cleveland Sports Commission					

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## Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 p.m. EDT

**Opening Statements:** Jeff welcomed everyone and explained how the bidding process worked, the timeline for the decision, how the news would be communicated to the bidders and explained that the winner would be expected to give a presentation at Convention in Atlanta to the HOD.

**Introductions:** Committee members and guests introduced themselves. The bidder representatives gave a brief overview of what their individual roles would be during the championship, should it be awarded to SPIRE.

**Purpose of the Meeting:** Jeff explained the purpose of the call as an opportunity for committee members to ask questions that were left unexplained in the bid or that needed further explanation as well as for bidders to ask any questions that they might have. It was explained that the Championship Committee now selects the host for each national championship meet prior to convention.

Jeff thanked the bid team for submitting their bid and demonstrating a continued interest in supporting U.S Masters Swimming; especially since SPIRE had hosted the Summer Championship just last year in 2015. Jeff went on to explain the situation with the 2018 UANA Pan Am Masters Championships being awarded to Orlando, Florida for August 4 – 10, 2018; and the possible impacts to the USMS 2018 Summer Nationals selection process.

### Question/Answer Session:

**Dates:** The dates of August 2-5, 2018 were confirmed as the host's preference. They also confirmed their alternate dates of August 9-12, 2018 and reiterated their flexibility to host the meet at a time that worked best for us. With the 2018 Pan Am Championships already set; SPIRE was asked if they would be interested in hosting the event in 2019; if the committee deemed it necessary to not award a USMS Championship for 2018. SPIRE expressed a strong interest in working with USMS, and would love to hold our championship every year if possible. The facility is available for 2019 and their bid did contain 2019 dates for consideration – **Preferred** - August 8-11, 2019 and **Alternate** – August 1-4, 2019 or August 15-18, 2019.

**Any Facility or Surrounding Area Changes or Improvements, Since We Were There In 2015:** The parking lot has not been paved yet; but could be paved by 2018/2019 (no commitment). The Backstroke ledges were not used in 2015; but the facility does have Colorado Backstroke ledges available for our use.

**Hotels:** Since Cleveland played host to the recent Republican National Convention; there were extensive improvements made to Cleveland and the surrounding areas in the past year. There was no improvement to the proximity of hotels in the immediate area around SPIRE; but there are now more and varied options for hotels in Cleveland.

**Concessions:** There were a lot of compliments about the SPIRE Fuel Nutrition Center, its convenience and wide selection of swimmer friendly food.

**Facility:** Having just been to SPIRE in 2015, the committee was familiar with the facility, spacious floor plan on deck and on the second floor; which presented numerous meeting and display options. There were not many questions about the facility.

**Lessons Learned from Prior Nationals:** This time around, SPIRE and the Cleveland Sports Commission hopes to expand their focus on local opportunities, wineries and attractions to entice people to venture out and explore some of what the area has to offer.

**Social:** SPIRE held a great social in 2015 and hopes to expand on that next time; including more wineries and Micro-Breweries and serving more than just appetizers.

**Follow-up:** The Championship Committee has a similar call with the last bidder for Summer Nationals scheduled for Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. On Sunday evening, July 31<sup>st</sup> the full committee will meet via conference call to discuss all of the bids and ultimately select the winning bidders. It is expected that Jeff will contact all bidders on Monday, August 1<sup>st</sup>. The winners is expected to attend convention in Atlanta and to make a presentation at the USMS House of Delegates.

The bidder left the call at 1:00 p.m. EDT.

**Summary/Analysis:** Strengths of this bid include: Great facility, experience in hosting nationals (2015), 10 lane racing course. Concerns: Distance between the facility and hotels, restaurants, shopping. Rental car a must.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m. EDT.

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