

Georgia LMSC ANNUAL Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 24 September 2023, Kedron Fieldhouse, Peachtree City, GA

ROLL CALL

Andrew and Walter Young YMCA (AWYY)

Douglas Carrington
DeLise Coleman

Atlanta Rainbow Trout (ART)

Andrea Knight
Megan Shovlin

Atlanta Water Jocks (AWJ)

Marianne Countryman
Elaine Krugman
Britta O'Leary
Mark Rogers
Leann Rossi
Jeffrey Tacca

Dynamo Masters (DYNA)

Bob Kohmescher
Ed Saltzman

Georgia (GAJA)

Ken Koontz

Georgia Masters Killer Whales (GMKW)

Rebecca Hamilton
Randy Marchman
Samy Naguib
Randy Russell
Lisa Watson
John Zeigler

Southside Seals (SSS)

Rob Copeland
Mike Stille
Karol Welling

YMCA of Metro Atlanta (ATLY)

Vesna Shelnutt

Unattached

Janita Poe

Adoption of Minutes from August 2023 Meeting

The minutes of the August meeting were approved unanimously.

Board Election

The following individuals put their names forward for consideration for a 2-year term for these officer positions:

Britta O'Leary – Chair**
Vesna Shelnutt – Vice Chair
Karol Welling – Secretary**
Ed Saltzman – Treasurer**

** Current positions

The entire slate was elected by acclamation.

Reports of Officers

Chair (Britta O'Leary)

Britta introduced herself and welcomed everyone. She thanked the Southside Seals and Rob for a fun meet, and the officials for volunteering. She especially liked the printed cookies.

Treasurer (Ed Saltzman) – Ed reported that our LMSC is doing well financially, enabling the LMSC to continue its ability to cover the annual club registration fees for clubs in Georgia.

Membership Coordinator (Mark Rogers)

Mark provided registration statistics in a spreadsheet for the year to date. There are 829 Masters swimmers currently registered. He noted that participation in meets directly correlates with increases in these numbers.

Coaches Chair (Ken Koontz)

Ken talked about the Coaches Clinic for Levels I & II certification held in Georgia this year. He is looking forward to having some grass-roots swimming clinics held by local coaches. New in this role for the LMSC, Ken is enjoying participating in USMS National Coaches Committee meetings. Ken talked about his many credentials and how he would like to start some strength and dry-land clinics. Another idea he had was monthly ZOOM roundtable sessions for Georgia coaches. He wants to institute an on-deck coach program for meets. Britta mentioned how in the past the Coaches Chair would spearhead organizing relays at USMS Nationals.

Diversity & Inclusion (Leann Rossi, Megan Shovlin)

Leann is stepping down from this role at the LMSC level to concentrate her efforts on the USMS National level. Megan Shovlin has volunteered to step up in her place. Megan moved here last December from Arizona and works in Diversity & Inclusion in Tech Ops for Delta Air Lines.

There was some discussion about the HBCU Celebration meet at Morehouse in December, the date of which will be published on the GA LMSC website when the meet director applies for a USMS sanction for the meet. Britta Leann would like to have a GA LMSC table at the meet.

Leann, Britta, and Marianne all attended the GA Aquatic Hall of Fame Induction Dinner where the 2023 inductees included Coach Tommie Lee Jackson, Jr.

Rebecca Hamilton expressed her opinion that the GA LMSC was adequately diverse and that she saw no need for this committee. Rob acknowledged that while GA is doing better than many LMSCs, we can always do better. Jacinta Poe politely thanked Rebecca for speaking and said that having the conversation is important. Jacinta recounted how few sports had participants that she could relate to when she was growing up and that representation matters. She shared that a group of Muslim women observing the wear of hijabs has newly formed a swimming group that honors their practices here in Georgia. Leann clarified for Rebecca that D & I cover age, disability and orientation in addition to race/ethnicity. Bob shared that while the ART team was given a lukewarm welcome when it first formed years ago, it is now one of the largest teams in the state. Jeffrey mentioned the Nautical Milers, a team that participates in nearly every Georgia meet.

Vice Chair (Lisa Watson)

As a former member of the now disbanded USMS Fitness Education Committee, Lisa talked about the last virtual fitness challenge for this year, the 1-mile swim in October. Coaches can work this into their practices. The LMSCs compete nationally and the winning LMSC may earn a stroke clinic. She also talked about the "Go the Distance" campaign which Randy Russell said was hard to find online.

Communications Chair (Elaine Krugman)

Having worked with Bob for many years, Elaine has volunteered to take over as newsletter editor. Elaine has contributed immensely to this labor of love and will be excellent in this role.

Old/New Business

2023 Georgia Grand Prix (Marianne Countryman)

The 2023 Grand Prix is going to include 2 new meets, the Chastain Park meet in October and the HBCU Celebration meet in December. The Grand Prix ongoing results are posted on the GA Masters Swimming website. DeLise Coleman expressed her irritation with "tentative" or TBD dates on the list of upcoming events. Britta explained that while the intent is to give our swimmers adequate notice of anticipated events, the meet directors determine the actual dates.

2023/2024 Marketing Budget

Considering the success of the new GA LMSC logo, Britta proposed a new \$1000 budget allocation for marketing. Rob Copeland asked if the entire budget was being considered. Britta said that the entire budget would be voted upon at a later time. The proposal was approved.

2023 USMS Annual Meeting Recap

Elaine and Ed attended this in-person, Jeffrey virtually. Future USMS Annual Meetings will be all virtual during even numbered years. Grown-up Swimming, ever growing in popularity, is possibly going to be brought under USMS as was College Club Swimming.

2023 Relay Preview

The focus of this gathering will be Event Development & Collaboration. Rob, Megan and Ken will attend.

Governance Task Force

Britta reviewed our By-Laws and noted that many updates are needed. She has asked Jamie Christy (Dynamo), who is a lawyer, to help. Andrea Knight also volunteered. Rob agreed to spearhead the effort.

Honoring Bob Kohmescher

Bob, who started swimming with Masters back in the 70s, was honored with an award to commemorate his decades of service to the GA LMSC. Bob was the newsletter editor back when it was a paper document that had to be printed and mailed to all our members – quite the task!! Well done, Bob, and thank you!!

SE Zone Chair

Ed has been elected (again) to be the SE Zone Chair. Congratulations to Ed!

Upcoming Events

Oct 14	1 st Annual CPAC Masters SCY Meet, Chastain Park
Oct 20-22	USMS Relay 2023 (Event Development & Collaboration), Houston, TX
Oct 29	Collins Hill SCY Developmental Meet
Dec 10	ART St Nick's SCM Meet, GA Tech
Dec	HBCU Diversity Meet, Morehouse College
Feb 3-4	Auburn Invitational, Auburn AL

Check georgiamasters.org and southeastzone.org for a full overview of upcoming meets.

Pitch Outlet Store

Check out the merchandise with GA LMSC logos on www.swimoutlet.com/collections/georgiamasters/

Other Business

Next meeting: Sunday, October 8th at 7pm via ZOOM

Meeting Adjourned

Submitted respectfully,

Karol Welling