

USAS CONVENTION – Greensboro, NC, September 14-17, 2005
United States Masters Swimming

House of Delegates - Minutes

Note: The committee meeting minutes are posted on the USMS web site and can be obtained from the National Office. Liaison reports can be found in the pre-convention packet also found on the web site.
MSA = moved, seconded and approved.

WEDNESDAY, September 14, 2005

8:30-9:30 PM

President Jim Miller called the meeting of the House of Delegates (HOD) to order at 8:30 PM. Secretary Sally Dillon called the roll; new delegates were asked to stand and be recognized.

President's address: President Miller's opening address noted that we are part of the largest self-governing Masters organization in the world. It has been his honor to serve as president during the past four years – years in which USMS has experienced a significant amount of change. Jim noted some of the significant issues that would come up at meetings during the course of the convention. He also reviewed, by use of a slide show, the many accomplishments of the Executive Committee (EC), Board of Directors (BOD) and USMS.

Other members of the outgoing Executive Committee briefly addressed the delegates:

- Vice President Scott Rabalais talked about how the Hurricane Katrina situation has affected our members. He introduced a campaign to raise funds for relief, including efforts in conjunction with the One Hour Postal Swim, and specifically for the needs of our swimming family in the South and Southeast.
- Past President Nancy Ridout noted that she was happy to see so many old friends as well as new delegates. She shared some memories of her involvement as a leader of USMS since 1985. Nancy looks forward to her service as the FINA representative in the coming years.
- Treasurer Doug Church noted that he is a lawyer in his "real life," and in spite of that, he has survived four USMS audits and reviews. The strong financial position USMS enjoys is due to a team that includes Financial Committee Chair Tom Boak, Internal Auditor Jeanne Ensign, Controller Margaret Bayless, and all the hard working people on the Finance Committee.
- Secretary Sally Dillon noted that she has enjoyed working with the Executive Committee, the Board of Directors, and the committee chairs and members. She's appreciated the cooperation from committee chairs over the years in getting the business of the corporation recorded properly.
- Zone Chair Lynn Hazlewood talked about the enjoyable work she has done with Webmaster Jim Matysek and USMS Editor Bill Volckening and how professional both have been.
- Legal Counsel Patty Miller talked about the process we go through each year. Speaking to the new delegates, she welcomed their new, fresh ideas and reminded them of their importance and that they represent their LMSCs and the swimmers at home. Patty encouraged all to treat each other with respect and to honor each other's opinions.
- National Office Administrator Tracy Grilli remarked that she has enjoyed working with the Executive Committee and looks forward to working with the next group of officers as well.

Parliamentary Procedures: Parliamentarian Jim Wheeler reviewed procedures that would govern the HOD meetings.

Election Procedures: Lynn Hazlewood reviewed the complexities of this year's election. Unless some significant changes occurred on Thursday, it appeared that the Friday night Meet the Candidates formal interview activity would not be necessary. At Large Directors from the Zones would be selected at the Zone meetings on Thursday morning. Lynn would read the slate of officers at the Thursday HOD meeting, and the Parliamentarian would conduct the nominations. Each person submitting a floor nomination would be given one minute to speak. The Meet the Candidate event scheduled for Thursday evening would focus on the offices where two or more people are running for a position. Finally, a box was provided for people to submit questions in advance, in writing.

LIAISON REPORTS: While Liaisons and Special Appointments provided written reports in the pre-convention packet some had additional information to report.

Controller – Margaret Bayless reported that the Clifton Gunderson audit had been completed and was available in writing to delegates upon request. She also repeated details of USMS's financial situation that were covered in the Board of Director's meeting an hour earlier. Please refer to those minutes for more information.

National Office Administrator – Tracy Grilli had no additional report.

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National Sponsor Liaison – Mel Goldstein encouraged everyone to support the USMS sponsors. He cited the benefit to USMS if more people obtained and used the USMS MBNA affinity credit card. Currently 600 members possess the card and they have brought in \$12,000 to USMS.

USMS Editor – Bill Volckening had no additional report.

USMS Webmaster – Jim Matysek had no additional report.

FINA Representative – Nancy Ridout reported that she was officially appointed as the representative in July at the FINA Congress. She expressed a debt of gratitude to June Krauser for her service to USMS in the position for the past 17 years. The first FINA meeting for 2005 will be held in Palo Alto, CA on November 3-6, and the committee will be discussing the 2006 World Championships, the various projects already underway, and long-range assessment of Masters Swimming around the world.

ISHOF Liaison – June Krauser announced the names of the 2006 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame (IMSHOF) honorees: Kathryn Pelton, Rita Simonton, Lavelle Stoinoff, Drury Gallagher, Walter Pfeiffer, and William Specht. She introduced Bruce Wigo, the new CEO of ISHOF, who spoke briefly about changes taking place at ISHOF. They have a new Board and Mark Spitz is the president. Top corporate CEOs in the country are getting involved. Part of honoring the honorees is to inspire people to swim. The health benefits are significant and Bruce said he could think of nothing more inspiring than honoring Masters in the hall of fame.

IGLA Liaison – Mark Wussler had no additional report.

National Board of Review Chair – Carolyn Boak noted that there had been no grievances in 2005.

USA-S to USMS Liaison – John Walker was not present.

USA Triathlon Liaison – Cindy Hawkinson had no additional report.

USMS to USA-S Liaison – With regard to the hurricane, Ted Haartz announced that USA Swimming has formed a quick task force to deal with issues affecting swimmers in the disaster area. The 120-day rule has been waived for swimmers who have lost their facilities - to allow them to join another team. In addition, a proposal was to be brought before their delegates to raise money for disaster relief.

USOC Liaison – Hill Carrow referred to his recent meetings with the USOC and some of the other governing bodies. They share a common interest with us in the development of new facilities. USA Swimming has formed a group to encourage the building of new facilities.

USOC Training Center Liaison – Nancy Ridout reported that anyone could apply to attend the USOC camp in Colorado Springs, and the application form is available on line. It's an unforgettable experience.

YMCA Liaison – Stu Marvin noted that since his written report, YMCA of USA has decided to bring the YMCA Championship meet back to Ft. Lauderdale, and for the first time, it will follow USMS Nationals and be held on May 18-21. Carolyn Boak thanked Stu for his outstanding leadership as meet director of many nationals in Ft Lauderdale.

Convention Chair Mike Heather announced details for the hospitality suite and morning workouts.

The House of Delegates recessed at 9:30 PM.

THURSDAY, September 15

1:45 – 2:45 PM

President Miller reconvened the meeting at 1:45 PM. He introduced Bruce Wigo, CEO of ISHOF who spoke of the procedures for the Hall of Fame that includes Masters. Bruce also explained the history for the Hall of Fame, how it began, and how it has been supported over the years. He expressed appreciation that Masters Swimming has supported the Hall financially over the years – something the other aquatic sports have failed to do.

Secretary Sally Dillon took roll to account for those who were not present on Wednesday.

Parliamentarian Jim Wheeler reviewed the parliamentary procedures.

Executive Director - Request for approval of the position. Doug Church noted that the position of Executive Director (ED) was recognized at last year's convention, although there were no efforts to implement it or efforts to actually activate or fund such a position. Through the course of the governance discussions that preceded this convention, more conversation about the position has occurred. Doug cited the need to get this before the HOD so that deliberation could occur on the funding and the employment of an ED as part of the business of this convention. It was MS that the HOD create the position of Executive Director and direct the Finance Committee to budget sufficient funds to engage a professional search firm to assist the new BOD in the development of criteria, and a search for candidates for the position of ED with adequate funding for compensation and staffing for most of calendar 2006, and that the HOD direct the new BOD to employ an ED, provided the candidate meets or exceeds job requirements in compliance with our Professional Management Guidelines. It was MSA to table the issue to a time-certain being the HOD meeting on Friday.

Nominations for Officers and Directors: Lynn Hazlewood reminded the HOD that there was a box in the back of the room for the submission of questions for the candidates. She clarified that the questions would only be for candidates running in the contested elections. Tom Boak, USMS candidate for Treasurer, pointed out that many people would like to see the candidates for the non-contested offices be allowed to participate in the formal interview process on Thursday evening. It was MS that the sessions be open for questions for all of the candidates. Various ways to include all candidates in the time available were discussed. A friendly amendment was made to allow that the non-opposed candidates would go after those with opposition. It was noted that only one interview session would take place that evening due to the busy schedule. The motion to allow all candidates to participate in the evening's session passed.

Election Chair Lynn Hazlewood announced the names of Zone representatives elected at Zone meetings:

Breadbasket – Anthony Thompson
 Colonies – Debbie Morrin-Norlund
 Dixie – Debbie Cavanaugh
 Great Lakes – Mike Lemke
 Northwest – Jane Moore
 Oceana – Janet Renner
 South Central – Marcia Marcantonio
 Southwest – Kenton Jones

Mike Heather asked that his name be removed for consideration for the office of Vice President of National Operations. Lynn announced the candidates for the National offices:

President – Rob Copeland
 Vice President of Member Services – Mark Gill
 Vice President of Community Services – no candidate
 Vice President of Local Operations – Julie Heather
 Vice President of National Operations – Colleen Driscoll and Leo Letendre
 Secretary – Meg Smath
 Treasurer – Tom Boak

At Large Directors from the Zones:

Breadbasket – Anna Lea Roof
 Colonies – Betsy Durrant
 Dixie – no candidate
 Great Lakes – Nadine Day and Mary Pohlmann
 Northwest – Jeanne Ensign
 Oceana – Michael Moore
 South Central – Carolyn Boak
 Southwest – no candidate

Parliamentarian Jim Wheeler took the podium to accept nominations from the floor.

President – seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

Vice President of Member Services – seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

Vice President of Community Services – Nancy Ridout nominated Hugh Moore, second by Mel Goldstein. And Meg Smath nominated Michael Heather, second by Betsy Durrant. It was MSA to close the nominations.

Vice President of Local Operations – seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

Vice President of National Operations - seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Breadbasket Zone - seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Colonies Zone seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Dixie Zone – Jerry Clark nominated by Scott Rabalais, second by Ed Salzman. It was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Great Lakes Zone - seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Northwest Zone - seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from South Central Zone - seeing none, it was MSA to close the nominations.

At Large Director from Southwest Zone – Laura Winslow nominated by Jeff Moxie, second by Mike Heather. It was MSA to close the nominations.

Nominating speeches were given by: Meg Smath in favor of Mike Heather, Nancy Ridout in favor of Hugh Moore, Scott Rabalais in favor of Jerry Clark, and Jeff Moxie in favor of Laura Winslow.

LIAISON REPORTS

Liaison to Senior Games - Bill Tingley reported that the 2005 National Senior Games had 714 participants over age 50. A 100 women's free in the 85-89 age group had a full heat of 8 swimmers. Bill distributed a written report since one was not included in the convention packet.

President Miller turned the podium over to Nancy Ridout who recognized and asked for a moment of silence for USMS members who have passed away in the past year.

The House of Delegates recessed at 2:48 PM.

FRIDAY, September 16

3-5 PM

President Miller reconvened the meeting at 3 PM.

North Carolina delegate Hill Carrow announced that there would be a social that evening in the hospitality suite, courtesy of North Carolina Masters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (meeting minutes were distributed to the delegates)

Convention – Mike Heather had nothing additional to report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Zone – Lynn Hazlewood noted the action items. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Ad Hoc Endowment Fund – Doug Church noted the growth of the fund to approximately \$170,000. Three grants have been funded to date. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Executive Committee – President Miller noted the action items. He announced that in response to the concerns that All Americans would not be published in our National Publication, the Editorial Board had decided to publish one issue each year with extra pages to accommodate the All American rosters. In addition, the One Hour Postal entry would be included.

ISHOF Contribution - The podium was turned over to Treasurer Doug Church who brought forward a housekeeping item. Last year the HOD held back the money budgeted for the ISHOF because of turmoil in that organization. The \$4200 was to be held until a formal audit was conducted. Doug noted that while an audit has not yet been conducted, a significant change in leadership and direction of the ISHOF justified our consideration of an action to release the funds. It was MSA to allow USMS to send the budgeted funds for 2005 (\$4200) to ISHOF.

Pre-meet funding for 2006 World Championships - Doug also referred to the "Report of the Meeting with FINA Worlds Organizers and USMS Financial Representatives Funding of Worlds championships" that was distributed to the delegates. Prior to convention and over the last month, there had been an effort on the part of USMS Finance representatives to stay in touch with the organizers of the 2006 Worlds regarding the initial plug budget, which has been used as the basis for USMS's approval of funding, and their current understanding of whether or not the plug budget was holding up. Due to some variations that needed to be addressed, a meeting was held to consider the issues. Last year \$225,000 was approved to fund pre-meet expenses. It was determined that the amount was not adequate, and the group advised that the draw should be increased to \$300,000. (It was noted that the likely profit from the meet has increased from \$35,000 to \$90,000.) As soon as revenues are generated in amounts to meet needs, no additional revenues would be borrowed. A second item discussed by the group was whether to obtain meet interruption insurance for a cost of approximately \$6,000 to protect our investment. The Finance Committee had decided that the risk was not necessary.

Doug called for a motion and it was MSA to increase the credit line to \$300,000.

There was no motion that USMS obtain meet interruption insurance.

Resolution for transfer of funds - Doug explained the procedure to inform our banks and transfer the USMS accounts from one Treasurer to another. It was MSA to execute a resolution to permit the transfer accounts to the next treasurer and the appropriate banks.

Executive Director - It was MSA to take the issue of the Executive Director off the table. Doug clarified that the intent was to create a means by which the new BOD would be enabled, empowered, and financially equipped to begin the process and find someone, if they can. It was not the intent that we force the process prematurely or that we ignore prudent procedures to accomplish this. Doug stated that, in his opinion, we have come too far down the path of governance changes to not recognize the value of the need for an ED.

Doug read the motion which had been revised slightly from Thursday's motion as follows: That the HOD create the position of Executive Director and direct the Finance Committee to budget sufficient funds for calendar year 2006 to (1) engage a professional search firm to assist the new BOD in the development of criteria for the accumulation and evaluation of candidates for such position, (2) to conduct a search for candidates for the position of ED, and (3) to provide adequate funding for compensation and staffing for most of calendar year 2006, and to direct the BOD to engage an ED during calendar year 2006, provided, however, that they find a highly qualified candidate that meets or exceeds the job requirements in compliance with Professional Management Guidelines (PMG).

A good deal of discussion followed the reading of the motion. Finance Chair Tom Boak suggested the language be changed so that it does not include staffing for most of the year. It was MSA to change "most" to "some portion".

Continued discussion focused on financial details including, but not limited to, the expected expenses an ED would generate, where funds would come from, concerns considering the commitment that had already been made to the World Championship meet, and concerns that our budget could not bear the expense. Doug did his best to address the numerous financial questions, as did others from the Finance Committee. With the approval of the motion, the FC would be able to plug expenses into the budget that would be reviewed the next day. The financial picture of the Worlds meet was reviewed.

Other issues brought forward included the philosophical change in the way we operate in USMS that would take place by creating and hiring the position of an ED, the lack of a complete job description, and the apparent rush to judgment that was perceived by some.

The amended motion was re-read. In clarifying what the motion would do, it was stated by Tom Boak that 1) the HOD would approve the ED position, 2) the FC would set aside funds to allow for the search and to begin the payment cycle of an ED if we can find the person, and 3) the new EC would be directed to hire an ED. Tom suggested the philosophical approach needed to be changed and it was MSA amend (3) to remove "direct" and replace with "authorize".

The twice-amended motion: It was MS that the HOD create the position of Executive Director and direct the Finance Committee to budget sufficient funds for calendar year 2006 to (1) engage a professional search firm to assist the new BOD in the development of criteria for the accumulation and evaluation of candidates for such position, (2) to conduct a search for candidates for the position of ED, (3) to provide adequate funding for compensation and staffing for some portion of calendar year 2006, and to authorize the BOD to engage an ED during calendar year 2006, provided, however, that they find a highly qualified candidate that meets or exceeds the job requirements in compliance with Professional Management Guidelines (PMG). The motion passed.

Executive Committee (continued) – President Miller fielded a few more questions. Jeanne Ensign questioned the recommendation of the present EC to the next EC regarding the National Sponsor Program policy statement. She had seen the proposed spreadsheet and wanted to know if we were committed to the figures. Jim explained that it was a work in progress and that the next BOD was not bound by it. Tom Boak asked why our National Sponsors had the spreadsheet, and Jim replied that if vendors had copies they did not obtain them from the EC. He expected the information would be further revised before being implemented. Jim was asked if we were changing our policy regarding the mailing lists, and he replied that there was no change of policy represented. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Board of Directors – President Miller had nothing additional to report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Election of Officers and Directors: Election Chair Lynn Hazlewood thanked the Election Committee for the work in conducting this year's complex and difficult election. She explained the voting procedure. She asked that we elect the candidates for uncontested offices by acclamation and it was MSA to elect the following:

Executive Committee members: President - Rob Copeland, Vice President of Member Services – Mark Gill, Vice President of Local Operations – Julie Heather, Secretary – Meg Smath, and Treasurer – Tom Boak. Additionally the At Large Directors from the Zones: Breadbasket – Anna Lea Roof, Colonies – Betsy Durrant, Dixie – Jerry Clark, Northwest – Jeanne Ensign, Oceana – Michael Moore, South Central – Carolyn Boak, and Southwest – Laura Winslow.

The Secretary called the roll for the balloting of the contested offices. The results were tabulated by the Election Committee and were announced at a later time.

Registration – Anna Lea Roof noted two errors in her report that would be corrected before posting on the web. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes. An amended version will go into the permanent records.

Fitness – Pam Himstreet noted action items in her report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

USMS Fitness Award - Pam also presented the annual Fitness Award to Doug and Marianne Brogan (O*H*I*O Masters Swim Club) for their exceptional efforts to encourage lifetime fitness within their club and to everyone they encounter. Dan Cox accepted the award on their behalf.

History and Archives – Barbara Dunbar noted the action item in her report. She also thanked the Editorial Board for their decision to include the All Americans and All Stars in the national publication. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Planning - Betsy Durrant noted the action items in her report. She thanked the members of the Governance Task Force for their hard work on the committee. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Publications – Meg Smath announced that the Rule Book cover design winner was Ray Novitski and that the 2006 Rule Book will be dedicated to Pieter Cath. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Records and Tabulation – Mary Beth Windrath noted the action items in her report and thanked the Editorial Board for their decision to include the All Americans and All Stars in the national publication. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Finance – Tom Boak noted the action items in his report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Recognition and Awards – Kathy Casey noted the action items in her report. It was MSA to table approval of her report until a written copy becomes available.

Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award - Carolyn Boak and Kathy Casey presented the Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award to the following recipients: Jane Masters, Border LMSC, Lee Carlson, Pacific Northwest LMSC, Don Mehl, Border LMSC, Peter Crumbine, Connecticut LMSC, Nancy Ridout, Pacific LMSC, Jan Kavadas, Pacific Northwest LMSC, Deb Walker, Florida LMSC, Jody Welborn, Oregon LMSC, and Jim Wheeler, Pacific LMSC.

Legal Counselors – Patty Miller reported that the committee had no action items but she noted some of the issues discussed. It was MSA to table approval of her report until a written copy becomes available.

President Miller called new President Rob Copeland and Past President June Krauser to the podium. June presented Rob with the presidential patch that she has traditionally awarded in the past.

Election Results – Lynn Hazlewood reported the results of the election for the contested offices as follows:
Vice President of Community Services – Mike Heather
Vice President of National Operations – Leo Letendre
At Large Director from the Great Lakes Zone – Nadine Day.

It was MSA to destroy the ballots.

The House of Delegates recessed at 4:55 PM.

Legal Counselors – the report was removed from table. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Recognition and Awards - the report was removed from table. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

XI FINA Masters World Championships - Michael Moore, chair of the Local Organization Committee, spoke to the HOD with information about the upcoming championships being held at Stanford University August 1—17, 2006. Details can be found in the minutes of the second meeting of the International Committee.

Insurance – Colleen Driscoll noted the action items in her report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Sports Medicine – Jessica Seaton noted the action items in her report. The committee recommended that its name be changed to Sports Medicine, Health, and Safety. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

ISHOF Nominating – Ginger Pierson noted the action items in her report. She also announced that Long Distance swimmer Suzanne Heim-Bowen would be the next nominee to ISHOF from USMS. Ginger thanked Danielle Ogier for all her hard work in preparing the information about Suzanne for the nominating committee. Finally, Ginger honored former ISHOF and IMSHOF honorees present: Graham Johnston, Bill Mulliken, June Krauser, Barbara Dunbar, and Paul Hutinger.

President Miller pulled the financial request action item from the ISHOF report so it could be considered during the financial report. He also pulled the motion of the committee that Ginger should be selected as the representative to serve on the ISHOF Advisory Board. After some discussion it was MSA to amend the action item to replace the word "recommend" with "selected". It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes as amended.

Officials – Charlie Cockrell, acting Officials Chair, reported on the action items and the proposed activities of the committee. He noted that the liaison job description being reviewed is the job of the Officials Committee liaison to the national championships. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Safety Education – Shannon Sullivan noted the action items in her report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Championship – Barry Fasbender noted the action items in his report. Bids accepted for 2007 Nationals were Federal Way, WA (SC) and The Woodlands, TX (LC).

National Championship award –Raleigh Area Masters recognizes outstanding contributions to our national championship events each year. Hill Carrow and George Simon presented this year's award to Tracy Grilli for her coordination of the management and information flow of the national championship information.

Coaches – Bob Bruce noted that there were no action items. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

International – Sandi Rousseau noted that there was an error in the committee's minutes (9/16) that would be corrected before posting. She called attention to the action items in the report as well as a letter from Orban Mendoza, President of the Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas (ASUA), the arm of FINA that deals with North and South America. The letter states that the President of the Brazilian Swimming Confederation advised Mr. Mendoza that the Brazilian Swimming Federation and the Aquatics Federation of Sao Paulo do not have any involvement in the October 2005 LatyCar championship. The letter encouraged the presidents of the affiliated federations, which includes USAS, to alert their Masters swimmers to refrain from having a relationship with a non-affiliated body, of which LatyCar is one. Mr. Mendoza recommended that we advise swimmers of a possible suspension. (The letter in its entirety can be found in the minutes of the first meeting of the International Committee.) Dale Neuberger, President of USAS, had given Jim Miller a directive to inform our membership that any USMS swimmer who swims at the All Americas LatyCar competition in Brazil in October 2005 may risk suspension from FINA competitions for a minimum period of one year. Swimmers throughout the world would run the risk of being ineligible for the 2006 FINA Masters Worlds at Stanford.

Considerable discussion ensued regarding the issues that prompted Mr. Mendoza's request, USMS's relationship with ASUA as well as LatyCar, FINA, and USAS, and where our loyalties should lie. Our membership in USAS affects all NGBs in the organization. We were advised that our decision could affect bids for World Championship events coming up in the future for the other sports. On the other hand, many people objected to the unilateral decision that prevents individual masters swimmers from participating in meets of their choosing – something we have been privileged to do in the past. A number of people expressed their dismay at what was considered to be an unfair, and unconscionable

decision. President Miller advised the HOD that we must support the directives coming from USAS. Others expressed a desire to let Dale Neuberger and USAS know of our regarding the decision.

After some confusion about whether statements made were actual motions, it was finally MS that the HOD direct the new Executive Committee to 1) explore further, exactly what the situation involves, 2) express to Dale Neuberger that we think the moral repugnance of pulling this action at the last minute is wrong and we want a detailed explanation as to why, when a masters group sanctioned this, it was pulled at the last minute. After investigation is done by the EC, it will then pass it to the new BOD to make a decision as to how to handle the situation.

Further discussion ensued and it was suggested that the wording express our concern for our members. It was MS to amend the motion by replacing the entire motion with new language which states: "For the HOD to direct the EC to investigate the matter further and to express to FINA its concern about the welfare of USMS members as well as the impact of FINA's decision on the upcoming World Championships".

After considerable discussion, it was MSA to call the question.
It was MSA to pass the amendment as stated above.

Noting that it was unclear that no action would be taken about notifying our swimmers until the EC and new BOD had acted on the decision, it was MS to amend the motion by adding that "no action shall be taken in notifying swimmers until the new EC and BOD have investigated the situation and made the decision about how to proceed".

After more discussion it was MSA to call the question.
It was MSA to amend the already amended motion as stated above.

It was suggested that a specific response time must be determined and it was MS that we amend the motion by adding "Finally, that if a decision has not yet been made, then the athletes shall be notified no later than Friday, September 23 of the situation and possible sanctions."

After more discussion it was MSA to call the question.
It was MSA to amend the twice amended motion.

The motion voted upon was: MS for the HOD to direct the EC to investigate the matter further and to express to FINA its concern about the welfare of USMS members as well as the impact of FINA's decision on the upcoming World Championships. No action shall be taken in notifying swimmers until the new EC and BOD have investigated the situation and made the decision about how to proceed. Finally, if a decision has not yet been made, then the athletes shall be notified no later than Friday, September 23 of the situation and possible sanctions.

After more discussion it was MSA to call the question.
The motion passed.

It was MSA to approve the minutes of the International Committee as amended.

Communications – Hugh Moore asked for an ovation to recognize the nearly full-time commitment Lynn Hazlewood has given to USMS. He reported one error in his minutes - an action item appeared on both sets of meeting minutes. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Communications Award - Bill Volckening awarded the first ever Communications Award to June Krauser in recognition of her pioneering efforts of communication while producing Swim Master. The award will be in June's name in the future.

TYR Newsletter Award - Kelly Crandell joined Bill to present the TYR Newsletter Award. Bill announced that Kelly would coordinate the award in the next year. Paul Freeman, editor of the WetSet (PNA) was the recipient of the Newsletter award. This year marked the first time a previous winner was recognized. Paul's outreach to the club and call for volunteer services was recognized. He introduced readers to coaches and different coaching styles. Jeanne Ensign accepted the award on Paul's behalf and thanked TYR and the committee for the recognition.

Marketing – Doug Garcia noted items from his report. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Rules – Leo Letendre noted that there were two rule proposals to consider. This being a "non" rules year the approval required a 90% vote.

R1 – 102.5.4D gave the Championship Committee the authority to establish entry fees to help pay meet expenses and earn additional funds. Any decisions would require the approval of the house. It was MSA to amend the proposal to remove unnecessary language that was redundant. It was MSA to approve amended proposal. As it was no longer needed, R2 was withdrawn automatically.

Leo went on to explain the four changes that have been referred to us by USA Swimming. The normal policy is that we adopt their recommendations.

U-2 and U-3 were pulled.

Failing to see any action on U-1 and U-4, USMS would automatically adopt them.

It was MS to accept U-2, a rule changing water temperature information from Fahrenheit to Celsius. It was MS that we amend the rule by deleting the NC (national championship) notation at the end of the rule so we could determine our own temperature range for national championships. There was also some objection to using Celsius and that we shouldn't broaden the water temperature, which the proposal would do. The proposed amendment and second were withdrawn. The motion to accept U-2 failed and we will not follow USA Swimming on this item.

It was MS to accept U-3. It was MS that we parenthetically add "dolphin" after each reference to the butterfly kick. While we do not have dolphin in our glossary, we do use it elsewhere in the Rules. The amendment passed. It should be clarified that the dolphin kick can only follow the pull. It was MSA to approve the amended U-3.

Leo explained that the USMS Rules Committee had worked with the USA-S Rules Committee and they approved dual sanctioned swim competitions, as long as we all follow the same rules – which would be USA Swimming Rules. Leo called it a co-sanctioned, dynamically lane-allocated meet based on a heat-by-heat basis. This would result in two meets going on. USA Swimming and USMS would come up with guidelines in the coming months. It was pointed out that in meter competitions, FINA would not accept the procedure. FINA representative Nancy Ridout asked to be kept informed. USMS will be responsible for reporting times of its swimmers to the Records and Tabulation Committee.

Finally, Leo noted changes that the Rules Committee would be forwarding a list of proposed changes to FINA rules to the outgoing USMS President. They would include changes to 1) include the 18-24 year old age group, 2) limit the number of breaststroke kicks in the butterfly to one per cycle, and 3) to include the 400 and 800-meter relays. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Long Distance – Peter Crumbine announced the bids accepted for the 2007 National Championship. He characterized this past year as one in which they took care of their "to do" list by choosing new patches and new medals, completing an awards manual, safety manual and operating guidelines (all on the web), revising the Open Water Manual, and nominating Suzanne Heim-Bowen for ISHOF in Long Distance. Peter announced that he was stepping down after four enjoyable years. He thanked a hard working committee – with everyone pulling their own weight and working hard on the committee. He thanked Sally Dillon, Tracy Grilli, and Vice Chair Marcia Cleveland for their assistance over the years. Peter announced that our new president, Rob Copeland, has appointed Marcia to be the next LD chair. It was MSA to approve the committee's minutes.

Legislation – Rob Copeland thanked his committee for their hard work on the proposals this year. He also thanked the Convention Committee for their hard work in getting us the reports in a timely manner. Rob explained the arrangement of the legislative items that were contained in the written report.

Proposals reported out favorably: L – 2, 3, 6, 10, 14, 17, 19, 25, 27, 30, 35, and 36.
Items 14 and 17 were pulled. It was MSA to approve all but 14 and 17.

L-14 – MS to approve L-14 (Executive Committee authority). Discussion was had regarding the Executive Committee's ability to act in an emergency. It was noted that the proposed language is more restricting than the present language. The motion to approve L—14 passed.

L-17 – MS to approve L-17 (Standing Committees). The lack of a definition of "Associate" was discussed and it was noted that the associate member has voice but no vote. The motion to approve L-17 passed.

Proposals reported out favorably as amended by the Legislation Committee: L - 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22, 26, 29, 31, 32, 33, and 34. Items 4, 5, 18, 26, and 29 were pulled. It was MSA to approve all but 4, 5, 18, 26, and 29.

L-4 - MS to approve L-4 (HOD Membership). Significant discussion took place regarding the appointment of employees and contractors as delegates. There were differences of opinions as to whether they should be allowed delegate status, whether there would be conflicts of interest, and whether the president would abuse the privilege. It was MS to amend the proposal by adding the phrase "with the concurrence of the BOD" after "the president". The motion failed. It was MS to amend the proposal by adding the phrase "who are otherwise actively engaged in Masters Swimming" after "contractors". The motion passed. It was MSA to approve L-4 as amended.

L-5 - MS to approve L5 (Powers of the HOD). Some objected to the language used in 504.2.3A-C and various suggestions were made. It was MS to amend A-C using parallel construction as follows: A. Elect . . . , B. Amend . . . , and C. Review . . . The motion passed. It was MSA to approve L-5 as amended.

L-18 – MS to approve L-18 (Communications Committee). A point of clarification was answered. The motion passed.

L-26 - MS to approve L-26 (Publications Editorial Committee). It was MS that we amend the proposal by striking Communications from the list of members of the committee. The motion to amend passed. L-26 passed as amended.

L-29 - MS to approve L-29 (Changes in the definition of the Recognition and Awards Committee). Ginger Pierson (OREG) expressed a concern that L-23 conflicts with this item and it should be discussed first. It was MSA to table L-29 until after the discussion of L-23.

Proposals not reported out favorably by the Legislation Committee: L - 1, 13, 21, 23, and 24. These required a 2/3 majority of the HOD to reverse the committee's recommendation. Item 23 was pulled. It was MSA to approve all but 23.

L-23 - MS to approve L-23 (Make ISHOF Nominating Committee a Standing Committee). ISHOF Nominating has been an Ad Hoc committee for a number of years. L-23 would make it a standing committee and L-29 would absorb it into the Recognition and Awards Committee. A number of delegates spoke in support of the committee becoming a standing committee as well as against. After considerable discussion it was MSA to call for the question. After a "false start" and clarification of what a yes vote meant, it was MS to approve L-23. The motion failed.

It was MSA to remove L-29 (R&A Committee) from the table. It was MS to amend L-29 to read . . . members "as necessary to carry out its duties". The motion carried.

Discussion was had regarding the new definition of the Recognition and Awards committee that would include the ISHOF nominations. Many felt a separate Ad Hoc committee should continue with the procedure. After considerable discussion it was MSA to call for the question.

It was MS to approve L29 as amended. The motion failed, L-29 was rejected.

It was MSA to accept the minutes of the Legislation Committee.

President Miller recognized Rob Copeland, Betsy Durrant, and their committees for all their hard work over the past years while working on the governance issues.

Special Award - Kathy Casey brought to the attention of the HOD a special award for Mel Goldstein – a humorous award – to right the wrong when he was disqualified many years ago for using a dolphin kick in the breaststroke, a rule that has now changed.

Finance – Tom Boak thanked Jim Miller for appointing him as the Finance Chair. He said that it has been one of the greatest experiences in his career in USMS. He also thanked the committee for their hard work. Tom asked everyone to keep Vice Chair Ralph Davis in his or her prayers as he is gravely ill and on the list for a heart transplant. Tom announced that Jeff Moxie had already been appointed as the new chair of the Finance Committee (FC) and that he has been actively involved throughout the convention.

There was not time to do a full updating of the Financial Operating Guidelines (FOG) but Tom noted that they made one change, which is a web site development policy. It was created by Jeanne Ensign and can be found in the minutes of meeting #1.

Remarking on the 2006 budget, Tom said that this year's philosophy was little bit different than in the past. The previous mandate has been to bring a balanced budget to the HOD. This year they delivered a balanced budget "almost". It was balanced until the cost for an Executive Director (ED) was considered. The ED created an excess expenditure of

\$95,000. Without that line item we had a \$4000 balance to the good. The committee philosophically believed this was an appropriate way to approach the situation.

Tom noted action items in the committee's minutes including the procedures regarding the USMS editor that included negotiation of an extension to the current contract and the opening up of the position as per PMG. The amount of our contribution to ISHOF was reduced last year to help meet this year's budget and the Finance Committee has reinstated the original contribution for 2006.

Hugh Moore (PNA) asked to pull action item #6 (on the minutes of the 3rd meeting) that deals with the USMS Editor position. It was MSA to approve the remainder of the committee's minutes.

Hugh stated that he was surprised by the decisions regarding the USMS editor since last year's recommendation was that the position had not significantly changed and did not require being opened up to others. Internal Auditor Jeanne Ensign explained that since last year, significant changes in responsibilities have occurred and a significant increase in salary has been approved. Therefore the FC felt the position should be advertised and opened up to a search subject to PMG.

It was MSA to approve item #6 of the Finance Committee minutes.

Tom went through the proposed budget and various line items were pulled for further discussion. Pulled items were 4500, 5064, 5350, 5410, 5435, 5665, 5840.

It was MSA to approve the balance of the budget except the above items.

4500 – A question was asked about the revenues and profit sharing of the World Championships. It was MSA to approve 4500.

5064 (VP of Local Operations) – Julie Heather asked for an increase of \$400 to allow for an expected increase in conference calling. It was MSA to approve the request.

5350 (International Committee) – Jim Miller asked to have the amount for the ASUA representative moved from the International Committee to a separate line item. The amount is \$1260 and Controller Margaret Bayless said it would become line item 5640. This request reduces the International budget by the same amount. It was MSA to approve the request.

5410 (Records and Tabulation Committee) – Mary Beth Windrath requested funds to obtain software to do the projects that had previously been done by hand. It was MSA to increase 5410 by \$2000.

5435 (Editorial Board) – Lynn Hazlewood requested an increase to the Editorial Budget by \$1300 for increased cost of conference calls. It was MSA to approve the request.

5665 (YMCA Liaison) Tom stated that \$1000 for travel is not needed for the YMCA liaison this year. It was MSA to approve the request.

5840 (ISHOF Contributions) – A question was posed as to why we make a contribution to the International Swimming Hall of Fame. Stu Marvin explained the history of the USMS contribution and what our funds help support. It was MSA to approve 5840.

Hearing no further business, it was MSA to approve the final budget.

Parliamentarian Jim Wheeler gave details for the Ransom Arthur presentation that would take place later that evening.

President Jim Miller thanked the EC for their fine service the past 4 years and passed the gavel to the new USMS President, Rob Copeland.

It was MSA to adjourn the House of Delegates at 5:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sally Ann Dillon
USMS Secretary