

SPMS Chair Report Thursday,

Sept 21, 2023

Submitted by Kenny Brisbin

USMS Annual Meeting

The USMS Annual Meeting was held earlier this month in Houston, Texas. We have many delegates attend in person or virtually. This year, three new delegates attended in person: Luci Davies, RJ Porrazzo, and Cory Nguyen. Each wrote a summary of what knowledge and insight they gained from the USMS Annual Meeting. The write-ups are attached at the end of his report. I will review the highlights of the meeting on the call.

LMSC Donations:

Starting January 1, 2024, your LMSC will not receive donations through online registration unless you register with the appropriate state agency. Previously, donations to every LMSC were available during the member registration process. LMSCs will now be required to [register](#) with the appropriate state agency before collecting donations through online registration. Many states have laws regulating the solicitation of donations. We realize that this is an extra step for some LMSCs that wish to receive donations and haven't completed their state process previously, particularly those that span multiple states. However, it is an important step to ensure LMSCs are compliant with state laws. [Information for charitable solicitations for your LMSC's state\(s\)](#) can be found on the IRS website. We recommend reaching out to a local expert for more information.

Golden Goggles Awards: (Do we want to do a donation basket)

The 20th Anniversary of this event is being held on November 19 in LA at the JW Marriott. the Golden Goggle Awards has served to recognize the immense talent and incredible accomplishments of the USA Swimming National Team. The night also holds additional significance with the USA Swimming Foundation-hosted charity auction, with all proceeds supporting its mission of saving lives, building champions, and impacting communities.

As a delegate for SPMS at the Annual Meeting I enjoyed voting for our next Board President. Since all the other board members were running unopposed it was nice to hear them speak and how they would like to shape USMS in a positive direction. The rules and regulations voting was tough to get through but it was eye opening to see how passionate some people are about our organization. It was also a great opportunity for me to network and connect with coaches around the country. It was a great learning experience to see how these meetings are run. I think a lot of it could have been done online ahead of time and used the in person time for coaches to speak and help grow USMS programs across the country!

RJ Porrazzo

Rose Bowl Masters

Hi Kenny,

The arguments during the meetings seemed long and almost pointless at times. However, I enjoyed getting to understand the importance of the legacy of US Masters Swimming as I listened to many of the pre-meeting Zoom calls as well as the awards night at the physical meeting. I had fun getting to know many of the other delegates from around the country and understanding their perspective in Masters swimming. I am not quite sure why all of us have to listen to arguments twice, once in the pre-meeting Zoom calls and again during the physical meeting. It feels redundant having to go through the current process.

Thank you,

Cory Nguyen

OC Riptide Aquatics Age Group & Masters Coach

Lucila Davies
18111 Ivorycrest Ln
Huntington Beach, CA,
92648

September 18, 2023

Southern Pacific Masters Swimming (SPMS)
1198 Pacific Coast Hwy, #D-324,
Seal Beach, CA,
90740

Dear SPMS Executive Board,

From September 7th to September 10th, 2023, I attended the USMS Annual Meeting in Houston as a first-time delegate. It was a truly wonderful and adventurous experience, especially as a person of color, to be part of something bigger than myself. The event took place at the Houston Airport Marriott at George Bush Intercontinental.

Friday, September 8th

The journey began with a sense of excitement as I attended HOD #1. The event kicked off with the approval of standing rules by Vice President of Administration, Chris Colburn. President Peter Guadagni welcomed us with opening remarks, setting a tone of inclusivity and unity. Dawson Hughes, the USMS CEO, shared updates and priorities for 2023 and 2024, inspiring us all. Erin Sullivan managed floor nominations, making me feel part of the democratic process.

- The Consent Agenda, under the guidance of Vice President Ed Coates, showcased the efficiency of the meeting. We approved committee reports and addressed procedural items seamlessly. The highlight was the Awards announcements and presentation, which made me proud to be part of this community that recognizes and celebrates excellence.

Saturday, September 9th

The morning swim workout at the CISD Aquatic Center was invigorating and a perfect way to connect with fellow delegates. The In Memoriam Video reminded us of the legacy we are carrying forward.

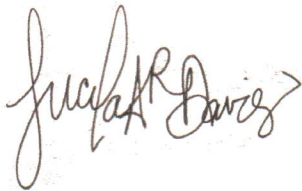
- HOD #2 was a day filled with engagement. Erin Sullivan and the Elections Committee presented the 2023 candidates, reinforcing the importance of representation. Voting on

rules, long-distance events, and legislation under the guidance of Mollie Grover, Phyllis Quinn, and Stephanie Gauzens showed the power of collective decision-making.

- Lunch was not just a meal break; it was an opportunity for networking and building connections with like-minded individuals. The continuation of voting and Guy Davis' presentation on 2024 budget assumptions kept us focused on the future.
- The event concluded with closing comments and the chance to provide meeting feedback, making me feel that my voice was valued.

Overall, this trip was an adventurous and professionally enriching experience. It was a platform to meet people, discuss ideas, and be inspired. As a person of color, it reinforced my belief in the importance of creating a BIPOC community within the adult aquatic world. This journey has not only expanded my horizons but also empowered me to be part of something big, contributing to the positive change we all wish to see.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lucila Davies". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L" and a long, sweeping tail.

Lucila Davies
SPMS Secretary
2023 USMS Delegate