

USMS National Convention

Sept 15-19, 2010

Scott Bay

I would like to thank the members of the LMSC for the opportunity to represent Florida at this convention. As we grow as an organization, Florida Leadership can play a key role in the decision making at the national level as well as in our Zone.

Wed PM, September 15, 2010

While delayed in Atlanta, I met up with Maria Elias-Williams who also is in the Dixie Zone. It was at that point that I learned she was going to be nominated from the floor for the Board of Directors following the withdrawal of originally slated candidate Rowdy Gaines. I have known Maria for a while and she is a fine person to fill this role and we are lucky to have her.

When I arrived at DFW I had informal meetings with a member of the Championship Committee and then a dinner meeting with the Chair of the Coaches Committee on which I currently serve. The basic focus of both of these meetings was to exchange priorities for the week and put some issues on the agenda.

Following that, I was invited to another dinner with Coach Dave Marsh of Swim Mac and some other friends and acquaintances from around the country. It was good to hear swimming stories from New York all the way to California - a great way to compare things in a very informal setting.

Thursday, September 16, 2010

Thursday began very early with coaching the morning workout at the SMU pool. A group of 60+ swimmers swam at the indoor short course facility and despite the crowded conditions, it seemed like everyone enjoyed the workout.

After a quick change it was off to Committee meetings. The first up was the Dixie Zone meeting. Deb Cavanaugh of the Florida Gold Coast LMSC ran the 45-minute meeting. Most of the information presented was less than controversial and the meeting went smoothly. I was sad to hear when we looked at the calendar that the Valentines meet did not appear and that it was not being held at this time.

The New Delegate Orientation followed the Dixie Zone Meeting. It was here that Board of Directors member Ed Tsuzuki explained the function and structure of USMS.

The House of Delegates met that morning as well. All of the delegates who were registered and received voting materials were present and we conducted some pro forma business on accepting minutes from other meetings and introducing members of the Board and National Office staff.

After this meeting was adjourned we broke into committee meetings. I attended open water followed by championship and then attended a workshop by Ben Christoffel on using social media to grow your Team.

The Social that evening was at the House of Blues.

Friday, September 17, 2010

The morning began with the House of Delegates and the first order of business was elections. This is the time when our friend Maria was elected along with the slate of candidates that ran unopposed. There was one contested election that we had to vote on and that was also an order of business.

After this meeting adjourned there were a few hallway caucuses to plan out the day. I attended the Coaches Committee and presented my report out of order so I could quickly go to finance committee to resolve a funding issue and report back to coaches. Very busy morning!

Following lunch there were again two meetings I was supposed to be in at the same time and those were championships and registration. Out of coaches committee we wanted to have the registration for individual and clubs altered so we could capture data on USMS coaches and we needed to make sure that On Deck coaching was addressed at Championships.

Following the afternoon's sessions, we met as the House again and then adjourned for the day.

The IMSHOF Ceremony was that night and a good time was had by all.

Saturday, September 18, 2010

This Day began with a Coaches Panel discussion involving Coaches from Academy Bullets (Chris Colburn - Coaches chair), AGUA (Craig Keller- Worlds Coach, Club of the Year) and Daytona Beach Masters (me). The session was well attended and the topics included Innovations in Coaching, Planning and Club Growth and Development.

The remainder of the day was taken up with the final House of Delegates where the budget was passed and rules were adopted. There was very lively debate about open water changes.

The last evening was reserved for the USAS awards banquet which saw great presentations from Masters swimming and an impressive tribute to the 1980 Olympic Team. The Coach of the Year Award went to Bobby Patten of Dallas Aquatics Masters.

Sunday, September 19, 2010

Departure on Sunday was a mix of relief from a lot of hard work and the satisfaction of a job well done. It was great seeing all of my fellow Florida Delegates in action and being a part of USMS leadership and I appreciate the opportunity to serve as a delegate.

Coaches Committee Report

2010 USMS Convention Dallas, Texas

Submitted by **Bill Brenner**
Florida LMSC Delegate
September 19, 2010

Action Items:

1. Select 2012 Worlds Coaches before 2011 USAS Convention.
2. At least one Masters coach to be listed on each Club Registration form.
3. Individual registration form should include a box to check for Masters Coaches.
4. Send all Masters coaches an explanation of USMS insurance coverage.
5. Encourage coaches to submit articles, especially technical issues, to the editor of Swimmer Magazine, Laura Hamel at lhamel@USMS.org.
6. SwimFest 2011 hosting bids are to be sent to Mel Goldstein at goldsteinmel@sbcglobal.net.
7. ASCA Masters Certification. New Level 1 and 2 course now available. No online course at this time.

The Coaches Committee received a report from Craig Keller, head coach for the USA at the World Championships held in Sweden this summer. Our swimmers were frustrated that unless they were on the same club team they could not participate in relays. A subcommittee was formed to address this problem. FINA mandates this rule and USMS does not currently have a solution to this registration problem for swimmers attending Worlds every two years. Coaches selected by the Coaches Committee can better serve the swimmers attending Worlds if they are in place ten months in advance of the meet.

The Coaches Committee has asked the Registration Committee to help identify every club Masters coach. More information from the Coaches Committee and USMS can be passed on to all teams, if the coach is listed, such as the latest policy information regarding the USMS liability insurance. Coaches need to know what the policy covers and how to avoid non-coverage issues.

More content written by coaches is needed for publication. Coaches currently write articles for our magazine "Swimmer", our web site at USMS.org and "Streamlines" our publication distributed by email. Any coach who feels they have expertise in any aspect of coaching, whether it be drills, stroke technique or other helpful advice is encouraged to email their ideas to our editor Laura Hamel.

Bids are being sought for hosting SwimFest 2011. This event is typically held after our spring nationals. The event is free for coaches. Swimmers pay a nominal fee for a weekend of instruction from selected Mentor Coaches and coaches participating in the event. A 50 meter pool and an indoor classroom is required. In addition, an open water venue would be preferred. To bid on hosting this event contact Mel Goldstein as soon as possible.

A new level 1 and 2 masters certification was introduced to coaches this summer at the ASCA Convention in Indianapolis. If you are interested in completing this course work, it will be offered at six locations during the next twelve months. No dates or locations have been announced. USMS may mandate that all coaches become certified. The LMSC should use their resources to help educate their coaches. The LMSC should be tasked with implementing a reimbursement schedule for furthering local LMSC coaches education and certification.

ANNUAL 2010 CONVENTION REPORT FOR FINANCE COMMITTEE TOUCHING ON REGISTRATION, ZONE AND OPEN WATER COMMITTEES

Joannie Campbell

As a Committee of the Board of Directors, our responsibilities and yearlong commitment to the finances of United States Masters Swimming have increased measurably this year. We have had innumerable teleconference meetings and had solved a great many of our business decisions before we arrived. We have formed an Audit Committee and Investment Committee. The latter I have made a suggestion that expertise be recruited from USMS members outside the Finance Committee as well as those that are members of the FC. They interviewed such members at the Convention. Most of the budget items were conservatively approached and we anticipated membership might increase at a slower rate because of the economy. We discussed the fact that our rate of non-renewals registrations is running about 39% - higher than normal. There was also discussion in the Registration Committee about this and many ideas were bantered around as to how to increase renewals. Many of the ideas centered around contacting the Coach rather than the Team Representative – in some cases I find that would be of no value; any ideas I am sure would be considered.

Although our Committee was authorized by the Executive Committee to come in with an unbalanced budget, we declined to do that – we were 1,400 to the plus side!! However, later in the year we are funding an initiative to form a Foundation to raise approximately \$10,000,000 with the purpose of promoting needed facilities throughout the country. After the initial funding we will carefully scrutinize the plans and hopefully give the plans a go-ahead!

We are aware of the increase in membership through Open Water and I attended a meeting of the Open Water Committee, which was very popular. We must have had at least 40 people outside the Committee and all with enthusiastic response. There was much discussion of clinics needed, insurance needs, one-event signups for these events, costs involved. I was able to make only the first session so I am sure most of the business was done later on in the Convention.

Our Dixie Zone meeting went smoothly. Deb Cavanaugh will be stepping down next year. The Dixie Zone Meets for the year were set as well as the calendar of events for 2011. These will all be listed on the Florida LMSC and Dixie Zone website.

Victor did an excellent job as convention coordinator, as usual! Next year will be in Jacksonville and we're looking forward to GATOR MEAT!

Margie Hutinger, FL LMSC Delegate
Member - Recognition & Awards Committee

“Cultivating Opportunities and Resources for Excellence” Masters Convention in Dallas, TX September 15-19, 2010

I appreciated the opportunity to be selected as Florida LMSC delegate and participate at the US Aquatic Sports Convention. The other delegates are an important part of convention and I find it interesting and fascinating to listen to them at meetings and have discussions with them on a more personal basis, at hospitality and before and after meetings. It's always refreshing to mingle with the positive and energetic delegates beyond our LMSC, who are more than willing to share their ideas and support the efforts and talents of others.

Throughout my eleven years as a delegate, I have picked up numerous outstanding ideas which could improve our LMSC, as have the other delegates. What happens to these ideas that have been suggested? If the FL LMSC deems it important to send members to convention, I feel that these suggestions have merit and should be considered and presented to the membership throughout the year.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS I ATTENDED

DIXIE ZONE

The calendar of meets for 2011 was presented and clubs did a better job of scheduling their meets ahead of time. Previous hosts of DZ championships reported an increase in entries when they hosted these meets, so delegates were encouraged to support them. We voted on the **DZ championship meets** and these were selected.

SCY - Ft Lauderdale, FL - Feb 25-27

LCM - Sarasota, FL - June 10-12

SCM - Charlotte, NC - Oct 15-16

Open Water - Fernandina Beach, FL - May 28

Mel Goldstein spoke and encouraged clubs to support Swim Fest 2011 by sending coaches. He also suggested that one of our clubs consider hosting Swim Fest 2011.

FITNESS EDUCATION

Much discussion revolved around the very popular **Go The Distance** program. Overall, there are over 2,000 participants. In our LMSC, we have over 1,800 members and 50 clubs. Our participation is now at 5%, with 102 participating from 20 clubs. This is an increase from 2%, last year. With less than 50% of USMS involved in competition, we need to actively reach the greater majority of our members. Swimming is an excellent lifetime sport/activity and can be an integral part of a personal fitness program. How can we promote/publicize this aspect of Masters swimming to the other 95% of our membership? Some clubs use the GTD awards as an extension of their awards program.

Nike and All American Swim Supply are donating awards for reaching certain milestones throughout the year. I have suggested they consider extending awards to cumulative years, to reach the swimmers who participate, but can't achieve that amount of mileage in one year. They are working on it.

The **Checkoff Challenge** will continue. Another excellent opportunity for swimmers to participate in Masters, without the apprehension of competing in a meet. Any club can bid on this event, and provide a service to USMS.

RECOGNITION & AWARDS (member)

The committee reviewed the awards we coordinate, Ransom Arthur, Dorothy Donnelly Service, June Krauser Communications and Club of the Year. **The Florida Maverick Masters ranked in the top 3 for**

Club of the Year. Asphalt Green, NYC, was the winner. In 2011, we approved giving a minimum of two COYA--regional and local clubs. I was on the convention sub-committee to recognize volunteers at the local level. We discussed suggestions on how to encourage more nominations for all of our awards. The list included contacting newsletter editors, club leaders through club reps, LMSC chairs, discussion forum, etc. **How can we encourage more clubs to participate in the nomination process?**

LMSC REGISTRAR TRAINING WORKSHOP

Much information was given about the actual registration process for individuals and how clubs are able to utilize this for their individual needs. I was interested in online club info, which wasn't included.

LEADERSHIP, MANAGE, SERVE, COMMUNICATE WORKSHOP (AKA LMSC)

This was one of the most informative meetings I attended, and many ideas were presented which, if our LMSC implemented, would make for a more well-rounded organization. Education is the key to success and to accomplish this, we need to think outside of the box. Four different leaders within USMS gave a presentation on one of these four topics. As we enter a new calendar year with new officers, we need to focus on how to improve service to our members and clubs.

LEADERSHIP - What's our vision? Where are we going? Reputations are won or lost during difficult times. To make our goals happen, we need to think outside the box. Volunteers are important in a successful LMSC and we need to care about them.

MANAGE - Try to get new people involved. Don't be afraid of change. Instead of waiting to the end of your term as an officer, be looking for who would make a good replacement. We really need to consider a change in our bylaws to include term limits for our officers and involve more new members.

SERVE - Give and provide support where needed. Train officers (some successful LMSC's have a weekend retreat) and send them to convention. Offer a stipend to meet directors for encouragement and support. Offer programs to encourage the self-coached swimmers. Awards ceremony/banquets are important to recognize volunteers.

COMMUNICATE - Members should be the main focus. Reach out to the event organizers, facilities and include a listing of places to swim. Seek out local sponsors. Having lots of retention skills is a valuable asset. USMS has a 36% non-renewal rate for the past three years.

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS SWIMMING HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

I've been to several inductions at convention, and they weren't very well attended. This one was FREE and the attendance appeared to be double. The snacks of various pasta dishes and salads were quite filling and there was plenty of seating room to mingle with with inductees and other guests. Lois Kivi Nochman and Richard Burns were the USMS inductees.

RECOGNITION OF VOLUNTEERS AT THE LOCAL LEVEL - WORKSHOP

At the convention, last year, Marianne Bradley was on a sub-committee to determine how LMSC's recognized their volunteers. A workshop was suggested for this year. I was one of the committee members who checked out what all of the LMSC's did. It was amazing that 41 LMSCs (out of 52) do not have a program for recognizing their volunteers. We're ahead of the game, on this one. Sally Dillon, Chair, did an excellent job in compiling all the info for the members and handed out a booklet with all the info.

SPORTS MEDICINE PRESENTATION - SALLY GUTHRIE

Her talk was about prescribed medicines and OTC drugs and what affect they have on swimmers. She is a pharmacist and did an excellent job on describing a variety of common drugs. She felt it was more important to take the prescribed medicine, although some of them had negative affects (fatigue was a big one).

RULES PROPOSALS

This was the year for rules, and there were about 100 rule changes that were proposed. The chair and committee members were well prepared and had done their homework. There were five separate rules committee meetings and a House of Delegates session that were devoted to extensive pro and con discussions. Many of the rules changes were housekeeping with word changes for clarification. I have included some of the major changes.

★We voted on the order of events at National Championships for the next three years, and the schedules will be included in the 2011 USMS Rule Book. With all the discussion about what swimmers like and do not like about a particular order of events, you can't suit everybody, hence the rotation of events. **It would also have the same application to the meets in the FL LMSC.**

★When a US National Record is swum, the LMSC records and tabulation chair shall send the supporting data to the chair of the USMS Records and Tabulation Committee or designee for verification **within 90 days of the end of the season** as stated in 105.1.2. (Previously, there was no deadline for NRs.)

★If a swimmer enters an event with a time significantly slower or faster than that swimmer's recorded time in the past two years, the meet director may, after a discussion with the swimmer, change the seeded time to a realistic time. (This is for National meets, but a similar bylaw would give local meet directors the same option, to reduce the number of sandbaggers. Some LMSC's already do this.)

★Split times shall be considered for Top 10 times if: The time meets the requirements for an official time.

★You still need fully automatic timing equipment for splits to be considered for USMS National and World records.

★The age determining date remains the same for SCY individual and relay events.

★The proposal to change Individual All-American recognition to the five fastest times and Relay AA to the three fastest times was soundly defeated.

★Where a moveable bulkhead is used, the length of the course **MUST BE CONFIRMED PRIOR TO THE START OF THE MEET.**

OPEN WATER

The Open Water Committee also had about 100 rule proposals to sort through, the majority of which were housekeeping.

LONG DISTANCE

The National Office wants to transition all the postal events to them. Opposition contends that it should remain at the club level and allow them to do the work and make the money. I agree!

Bids were announced for the ten 2012 USMS National Championships.

★ One Hour Postal - Federal Way Masters

★5K/10K - Hammerheads, FL; FLG

★3000/6000 Yards - Long Beach Grunions, CA

★1 mile OW - Hickory Nut Gorge Olympiad, Lake Lore, NC

★1-3 mile OW - Garden State Masters, Lake Hopatcong, NJ (2 mile)

★3-6 mile OW - Team NASTI, Noblesville, IN (5K)

★<6 mile OW - Rogue Valley Masters, Jacksonville, OR (10K)

★2 mile cable - COMA, Sweet Home, OR

2011 BUDGET

All the countless hours the committee spent before the convention, led to a smooth and documented presentation, which was accepted by the HOD with little discussion. **Every USMS member will be affected by a \$2 increase in the USMS fees.** This will help to offset the additional salaries at the National level which will result in increased membership benefits.

OTHER COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS

★ I attended the post-convention evaluation session, led by the USMS President, Jeff Moxie. This discussion included three questions; **What did we do right? What did we do wrong? and What did we miss?** I think this would be an excellent idea for a basic LMSC survey, to be included in the newsletter for all members to respond to, not just the clubs. He did the same thing, last year and I made the same comment. I have yet to hear about such a survey.

★ The award presentations at the final banquet are always a treat. This year, the athletes that qualified for the 1980 Olympics in Russia, but weren't able to go because of the US boycott, were honored. Many of the names were familiar. Some of the athletes were able to attend and were recognized on

stage. One of them was my diving hero, **Greg Louganis**. Afterwards, I walked to his table, introduced myself and told him how much I enjoyed watching him dive and that I saw him in person, in a championship meet in Milwaukee, WI. I got his autograph, "Believe in yourself," and a picture with him.

★ **One of my missions in attending convention was to get information on how the FL LMSC could implement collecting club fees with individual online registration.** During the past three years, I mistakenly thought that this was not possible. FMM does not currently encourage online registration, as the individuals have to send a separate check to our registrar to complete their registration. This has been a very frustrating process, as some of these individuals ignore repeated phone calls and e-mails and we feel like a collection agency.

This summer, I complained to the National Office and was told by Anna Lea Matysek, Membership Coordinator, that Club Assistant was able to do this, but it was up to the LMSC to set it up. The FL LMSC hasn't done this, as the Treasurer doesn't want to do the extra work and the chair agrees. Another objection was that the LMSC couldn't co-mingle its funds with the club fees.

I had a very enlightening discussion with George Simon, Chair of the USMS Registration Committee.

❖ Yes, Club Assistant can collect club fees. It is up to each LMSC to set it up.

❖ USMS would send the appropriate amount of club fees to our LMSC, every month. This only applies to registered clubs, not chapters of FACT.

❖ **I propose that the FL LMSC set it up our registration with Club Assistant, so individuals registering online can pay their club fees in a timely manner.**

❖ **Checks would be sent to the clubs every six months (or however often we choose).** There are 50 clubs in our LMSC, but only 20 have a club fee. Instead of sending out 50 checks/month (total of 600/year) this method would involve only 20 checks/two times a year (total of 40/year).

❖ This would not be considered co-mingling of LMSC and club fees but considered as a "pass through" entry.

❖ Or, we can set up a separate escrow checking account, recommended. USMS would write twelve monthly checks to FL-Club-escrow account, then twice a year our treasurer would distribute the appropriate amount to each club. The treasurer would need to keep the accounting accurate so the correct amount is sent to each club.

❖ These 20 clubs each pay a yearly registration fee of \$40 (\$800). Each member of these clubs pays an individual LMSC fee of \$8. These clubs contribute a significant amount to support the FL LMSC.

❖ How about a small stipend to the treasurer to encourage him to take on this extra responsibility?

It is important that our LMSC maintain a focus on how to improve service and support to it's members and clubs. This would be an excellent way to accomplish this goal.

**The next USAS convention will be in the FL LMSC - 9/14-18/10/11
Jacksonville, FL; Hyatt Regency Jacksonville.**

Respectfully submitted,

Margie Hutinger
Member of the Recognition & Awards Committee

Paul Hutinger, At Large Delegate
Member - History & Archives Committee

“Cultivating Opportunities and Resources for Excellence” Masters Convention in Dallas, TX September 15-19, 2010

I appreciated the opportunity to be selected as an at-large delegate and participate at the US Aquatic Sports Convention. Besides attending meetings and the HOD, I was pleased to be able to talk with the movers and shakers of USMS. As a Masters coach, I was able to discuss various training techniques with other coaches and got some ideas to implement in my future “Ask the Swim Doctor” columns.

NEW DELEGATE ORIENTATION

Although not a new delegate, I was impressed by the thorough presentation by Ed Tsuzuki, Vice President of Local Operations. It was excellent info for the newbies and a timely review for those of us who needed a refresher course.

HISTORY & ARCHIVES COMMITTEE (MEMBER)

The lack of accuracy of the history of Masters swimming in the US has bothered me for many years. I feel that our history still has some holes in it which need to be addressed. I presented a paper with information relevant to the early history of Masters swimming in the United States.

- ★ Era preceding Masters swimming with a letter from Ransom Arthur, 1969
- ★ ASCA era, 1970 and 1971. 1970 is the date that should be listed for the first records, as the first SCY National Championship reflects the actual start of Masters records in the US. I listed the swimmers who won their events. They were to be recognized as Nationals Champions, but I also feel that they should be listed as the first Masters record holders. It does seem logical to me that the very first winners of the Masters Nationals in the US should also be recognized as National Record holders. I wasn't able to attend this meet as I had the orals for my PhD at the same time.
- ★ AAU era, 1972-1979, under the auspices of the AAU.
- ★ USMS era, 1980-current program.

COACHES COMMITTEE

There was much discussion on hospitality for coaches at Nationals. It was suggested that it be based on the number of swimmers to receive a reduction in cost. On-deck coaching at Nationals continues to be a successful opportunity for swimmers. I presented comments regarding a research I did involving lactates in my swim training.

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS SWIMMING HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

I had the privilege of inducting my long time friend, Bonnie Pronk, the first inductee from Canada. This was quite an honor for me.

CONVENTION WRAPUP

I had the the privilege of speaking to the USMS President, Jeff Moxie, before the meeting. I congratulated him on his excellent introduction of the USMS Ransom Arthur Award winner, Lynn Hazelwood. He included some accurate comments about the early history of Masters swimming in the US, and the contributions of the namesake of this award.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Hutinger
Member of the History & Archives Committee

Open Water Committee Report

2010 USMS Convention Dallas, Texas

Submitted by **Rick Walker**
Florida LMSC Delegate
September 16, 2010

The 2010 USAS Convention held in Dallas was the second one I have attended. I found it to be more enjoyable as I was more familiar with the format and general business that is conducted. 2010 was a "rules" year and that was the focus at most of the House of Delegates sessions. My observation was that things went a bit smoother than in past years. In my opinion, most of the legislation passed was general housekeeping and some interesting legislation regarding swimmers ages and relay composition was voted down.

This was the first year I served on a Committee. The Open Water Committee is new and a big focus for USMS. The majority of our time was spent discussing sanctions and safety and I felt we did not have enough time to handle all the issues put before us. Lynne Hazelwood who chairs our committee did an outstanding job of taking our information and summing it all up into a manageable form.

Our first meeting was spent going over the pros and cons of sanctions. Discussion was held concerning whether to have USMS office sanction OW events or to keep them with the LMSC's. Much discussion involved how difficult sanctions are to get in some LMSC's and how we are losing races to USAT for this reason. Obtaining a sanction in our LMSC is a very simple process. Our second meeting primarily focused on safety and requirements to run a race. Jim Wheeler, a safety consultant, outlined his experiences and what is required to run a proper event. No new action was taken, simply fact finding for our chair to report to the BOD.

The workshop that covered open water safety was most informative and will be useful to me as an event host. The subject is so broad and could have been discussed for hours. I did come away with several key points that I can institute into my event.

2010 Convention Report

Meegan Wilson

Congratulation to **Sue Moucha** and **Victor Buehler** for receiving the 2010 Dorothy Donnelly USMS Service Award.

As Chair of the History and Archives Committee I have listed the following important information:

- National Championship results from 1970-1993 have been posted on the USMS website.
- Patty Nardozzi (History & Archives member) and Bob Beach made a historical presentation at the 41st SCY Nationals in Atlanta and the 40th Anniversary of USMS.
- The pre 1993 Top Ten data digitized by John Bauman have been posted on the USMS website
- Hopefully in the very near future Members will be able to view a list of Olympians who are also USMS members
- National Records chronological database that are currently being compiled.
- H&A are searching for pre 1985 registration databases.

As a member of the Legislation Committee:

- This is a Rules year and Legislation only had a few emergency items to consider.
- Because of a list of 46 coaches and officials banned from USA Swimming for life for unscrupulous behavior, mostly for sexual misconduct (for more info see: <http://www.gazette.com/sports/list-102133-swimming-board.html>), the following have been added to USMS rules as unsporting conduct:
 1. Any nonconsensual sexual conduct, pattern of unwelcome sexual advances, or other inappropriate sexually oriented behavior or action by a USMS member toward a member or any other person participating in any capacity whatsoever in the affairs or activities of USMS.
- Open Water will have their own Sanction section in the rule book to help clarify the sanctioning process as well as added language to the liability clause.

Other actions that will effect our members are:

- There is a \$2 increase in USMS membership dues (voted last year) for 2011. The Florida LMSC will not be raising their fees, so total cost for registering next year is \$37.
- This year it was voted to increase the registration fees another \$2 for 2012.
- For Bulkhead pools, the pool must be measured before and after the meet for times to count for USMS top ten and records. If the bulkhead is misaligned, swimmers will know beforehand that their times will not count.