

**United States Masters Swimming (USMS)  
Delaware Valley Local Masters Swimming Committee (DV LMSC)  
Minutes of Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 19, 2025**

**Welcome**

The annual membership meeting was conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams and called to order by Jeremy Gross at 12:41pm. Folks on the call at the start of the meeting introduced themselves.

Attending: Chairperson Jeremy Gross, Treasurer Joe Boris, Geoff Meyer, Vice President Steve Dougherty, Dave Schneider, Delia Perez, Julie Corman, Courtney Ford, Dan Allen, Kristie Bruno, Mark Zucka, Laurie Hug, Gary Sangmeister, Nancy Kelly, Rupert Seals.

Note: for ease of reference, submitted reports are linked from the report titles as listed below. In addition, they are all found in [this folder](#), which is also linked on our [LMSC website](#).

Our Chair, Jeremy Gross, put together a [PowerPoint presentation](#) to aid all attendees in following along during the meeting.

**2024 Annual Meeting Minutes Review**

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Alex Bromley, Secretary

The minutes from our 2024 Annual Meeting to USMS, along with our Treasurer's report, were posted on the [USMS](#) website. They and committee reports were also posted on our [LMSC website](#).

Geoff Meyer motioned to accept the 2024 DV LMSC Annual Meeting minutes /S/P

**Nominations/Elections - DV LMSC Board of Directors**

**LMSC Officers**

**Chair**

Delia Perez nominated Jeremy Gross for a third term

Jeremy Gross accepted unanimously for Chair for a 2-year term /S/P

**Vice Chair**

Delia Perez nominated Steve Dougherty for a third term

Steve Dougherty accepted unanimously for Vice Chair for a 2-year term /S/P

**Secretary**

Delia Perez nominated Alex Bromley for a second term

Alex Bromley accepted unanimously for Secretary for a 2-year term /S/P

**LMSC Committee Chairs**

**Fitness Chair**

Officially disbanded. Outdated position and no longer needed.

**Sanctions Chair**

Tom remains Sanctions Chair after Barbara could no longer take on the position. Willing to step down if someone else would like to step up into the role.

### **Marketing/Social Media Chair**

Pam stepped down mid-year. She has mostly been in charge of running the Facebook page. Board members are actively pursuing appointing the new chair for this committee.

### **Old Business**

- By-laws need updating
  - How do we get new by-laws approved? Does USMS have to approve or just the DVLMSC board? Steve to reach out to Jessica at USMS for clarity.
  - Treasurer responsibilities contradictory and needs revision

### **New Business**

- Third [annual] donation OF \$2,500.00 to PhilAquatics to support initiative to build a world-class 50m pool in the Philadelphia area.
- What would people / teams like to see from DV LMSC that we are not doing?
  - More meets at new locations?
    - Mercersburg Academy can be utilized as long course or short course pool but may be too far for some folks
  - Coaching clinics / education weekend (run by USMS)?
    - Geoff to look into more info on Eastern States Sports Clinic - we could potentially send some coaches and subsidize some of their fee
  - LCM meets closer by?
    - Philadelphia Country Club recently rehabbed their pool in the last couple years
    - Aim for June/July vs August (NJ long course meet canceled this year due to too few sign ups)
  - Socials? Maybe tie to meets
  - Promote adult learn-to-swim more?
  - Letter of support for building a world-class 50m pool in Delaware and would be interested in attending a meet there once complete

### **Secretary's Report**

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Alex Bromley, Secretary

The Secretary's Report, detailing significant actions, decisions, or discussions made by the officers and /or Board of Directors (BOD) during the time between annual meetings is posted on our [LMSC website](#) and linked above.

- Denise Escher is noted to be a new member of the LMSC Development Committee

- Both Laurie and Denise will be attending Relay this year

Secretary's Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### Treasurer's Report and 1/1/25 - 9/30/25 Financials

Presented by Joe Boris, Treasurer

#### Highlights:

- Checking account balance ~28/29k at beginning of year and currently a little over 30k
- Income year-to-date is comprised of three categories, Membership Fees (\$5,298.00), Pool Meet Fees (\$17,800.52), Contributions (\$110.00).
- Meet Expenses:
  - Souderton Invite (Nov 2024): Loss of (1,584.63)
  - LaSalle University (Dec 2024): Loss of (1,549.97)
  - York YMCA Candy Cane (Dec 2024): Loss of (252.54)
  - Upper Perk YMCA (Feb 2025): Loss of (206.43)
  - Delaware Valley SCY Championships (Mar 2025): Loss of (2,145.61)
  - Hershey Aquatic Spring Meet (Apr 2025): Loss of (94.72)
  - York YMCA Fall Meet (Sept 2025): Loss of (223.23)
  - \$300 for other non-sponsored DVLMSC meets
- Non-meet related expenses:
  - Clinics & Seminars: 950.00
  - Recognition Awards: 743.50
  - Program Discounts: 63.00
  - Administration: 126.00
  - Website & Social Media: 381.60
  - Other Donations and Grants: 629.00
- No 2025 USMS convention expenses (virtual) but will have some expenses for upcoming Relay 2025
- Portion of USMS membership fee allocated towards DV LMSC going from \$12 to \$10 (last year went from \$14 to \$12)

Treasurer's Report accepted unanimously /S/P

*Secretary's Note:* Prior to the meeting, Jeremy Gross and Joe Boris conducted the annual financial review as required by our By-Laws. Jeremy and Joe found the Treasurer's report and bank statements to be in order.

### Social & Recognition Reports

Presented by Steve Dougherty and Jeremy Gross, Committee Co-Chairs

Biggest social event of the year is the social concluding the SCY Championships where pizza and a [pool] cake are provided and team winners of the meet are announced.

#### *Delaware "Virtual River Swim"*

- Race ran from Jan 15 to Jun 15 where the goal was to swim the full length of Delaware River (580,6135 yards)
- Entry fee went to Delaware Riverkeeper Network for river cleanup project
- 60 participants total; could participate as solo swimmer or 3- or 4-person relay team

- 2 solo swimmers make the entire 580,613 yards on their own: Dan Allen (completed 5/23) and Eric Schall (completed 6/6)
- 4 x 3-person relay teams completed full swim (“Lil’ Monsters” and “Vibeke and her Swim Brothers” both finished on 3/5, Lil’ Monsters won by 2 minutes)
- 6 x 4-person relay teams completed full swim (“The Delaware Dolphins” finished on 3/25)

The committee is open to ideas on sponsoring other Social Events if anyone has any suggestions.

*2024 Awards:*

**David Harrison Outstanding Male Swimmer Award**

Winner – Greg Oxley

8 Top - 10 swims, of which 4 #1 and 3 #2 and scored 40 pts at Nationals

**Jeanne Merryman Outstanding Female Swimmer Award**

Winner – Abigail K Sheridan

13 Top - 10 swims, of which 1 #1 and 2 #3 and scored 52 pts at Nationals

**Henry “Barney” Hungerford Outstanding Open Water / Long Distance Swimmer Award**

Winner – Elise Holtan

3rd Long Dist Nationals, 5th Sprint Nationals

**Outstanding Volunteer Support of the DV LMSC Award**

Winner – George Horan

George Horan has been a long time member of USMS and Delaware Valley, and for 10-years George served on the Delaware Valley Board as our Sanctions Chair, ensuring that all the DV meets were done “by the book” and in accordance with USMS rules. Beyond his regional roles, George has been both a swimmer and volunteer with the Philadelphia Fins since the 90’s. He has held countless volunteer position, most recently as the meet director for the last Fins hosted meet. An opportunity he so enjoyed he offered to volunteer for it at any fins or any meet in the future. He’s held countless team records over the years and currently holds 13 team records as part of a relay and 23 individual records across three courses. In his free time outside of the pool, George enjoys live performances and classical music.

**Lifetime Swimming Performance Award**

Winner – Robert Jones

Robert “Bob” Jones, was a true lifetime swimmer, from captaining his high school team at Akron Firestone to the Ohio State Championship in 1969 to his varsity accomplishments at Dartmouth College, through his dedication and love USMS swimming. Unfortunately, Bob passed away at the age of 73, on January 12, 2025. The news of his passing spread quickly through the Masters community here in Pennsylvania and in Florida, with swimmers recounting the fun they had swimming with Bob right up

until the day of his passing. A lifelong athlete, Bob swam actively in Masters Swimming as a member of the Colonials 1776 Masters Swim Team and T2 Naples Masters in Florida. He swam almost daily at the Upper Main Line YMCA or the Norris Aquatic Center in Naples. He is remembered by his teammates as “tirelessly enthusiastic,” “the strongest work ethic on the team,” “the first in the pool and the last to leave,” and for “always having a smile for everyone he met.” Bob competed regularly in the U.S. Masters Swimming National Championships and the National Senior Games, winning gold medals in events ranging from the 100 backstroke, the 200 Individual Medley, and his favorite, the 100 and 200 butterfly. Across his 373 USMS races, Bob totaled 23 individual top-10 achievements with USMS and 23 relay top-10’s, 2 of which were All-American honors with his relay teammates from 1776. At his last major swim meet in 2024, the prestigious Huntsman Games in St. George, Utah, he won 7 medals in 9 swimming events.

2025 Awards to be presented at DV Champs.

Recognition Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### **Membership Coordinator’s Report**

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Barbara Burke, Membership Coordinator

Highlights:

- Membership has increased from last year (1,018 members are registered for 2025 as of 10/5/2025)
  - Up from 968 members one year prior on 10/12/2024
  - Up 45% since COVID dip
  - Peak membership 1084 in 2017
- 29 registered clubs in 2025 (up from 26 clubs in 2024)
- 67 self-identified coaches for 2025 (up from 48 self-identified coaches in 2024)
- Membership coordinator no longer has access to the report detailing the total fees paid by DV LMSC members
  - Also details the amount received by DV LMSC and the amount retained by National
- DV LMSC received a total of \$0 in donations from members during the 2024-2025 membership year.
- All club transfers are handled by members themselves or by USMS National

Membership Coordinator’s Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### **Competition Report**

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Geoff Meyer, Competition Chair

\*Included in our slide deck presented at the Annual Meeting rather than an actual report\*

Highlights:

- 1,630 total swimmers for 2024-2025 meet season
- Upcoming meet schedule:
  - Souderton - Nov 2
  - La Salle - Dec 14

- York Candy Cane Catch - TBD sometime in Dec
  - New pool director director, need to follow up
- Villanova - Jan 4, 2026 (pool time not confirmed)
- Phoenixville - TBD sometime in Jan
- SJAC - ??
  - Canceled last 2 years due to too few sign ups
- Upper Perk Y - Feb 1, 2026 (\*will sanction after Nov 1)
- DV Champs Mar 7, 2026
- Hershey - TBD sometime in Apr
- SCY Zones - Apr 10-12 at George Mason
- USMS Spring Nationals (SCY) - Apr 30-May 3, 2026 in Greensboro, NC
- Scoring changing for DV CHamps this year
  - Individual awards? (ex. Win all 5 individual events, closest to the pin)

Competition Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### USMS Officials Report

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Denise Escher, Committee Chair

Highlights:

- Denise new Officials Chair this year
- Reached out to all known officials to confirm interest in USMS → Have an UPDATED contact list of 40 officials!

Officials Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### Sanctions Report

Presented by Jeremy Gross on behalf of Tom Patterson, Committee Chair

Meets Sanctioned

- Hershey Aquatic Club Masters Swim Autumnal Equinox Meet, 10/4/2025
- Hershey Meets Spring Meet, 4/27/25
- 2025 Delaware Valley LMSC SCY Championship Meet, 3/8/2025
- Delaware Valley LMSC Upper Perk Valley Y Masters Meet, 2/9/2025
- 2025 Bill Heebner Memorial Winter Freeze Masters Meet, SCM, 1/12/2025
- 2025 Happy New Year's Master Meet, 1/5/2025
- DV Masters Meet-LaSalle University, 12/15/2024

Meets Recognized

- Delaware Senior Games Swimming Meet, 10/12/2025
- York Splash into Summer Meet, 9/7/2025
- York Candy Cane Catch Meet, 12/22/24

Continuing one time membership fee policy: if a non-USMS member wants to swim at a sanctioned meet, pay \$20 to become a "member for the day"

Sanctions Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### Top 10 Report

Presented by Jeremy Gross, Committee Chair

Highlights:

- DV did not host any LCM Meets
- All DV Meets met Top-10 requirements
- Almost cracked 250 barrier!
- Introduced the one-event process last year for some meets (Souderton & Villanova) which worked well → allows for the meet to be sanctioned rather than recognized, at a cost of \$20 for non-USMS annual members

Top 10 Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### Records Report

Presented by Dan Allen, Committee Chair

Highlights:

- Dan took over tracking the records after our 2024 meeting and has come up with a way to semi-automate the individual records
- In case of relay record being broken, Dan needs to be notified so he can check meet results and acknowledge the accomplishment as soon as possible (unlikely to notice it prior to USMS reports)
- Since the last Annual Meeting, the Records have been updated 14 times with 64 new records being set.
  - Our oldest record was set in 1978.

Records Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### Website Report

Presented by Dan Allen, Webmaster

Highlights:

- Completed 109 updates to the website
- The Domain was updated July 4, 2025 for 2 years and added SSL certificate (\$3.75/yr) for 5 years on May 15th
- Hosting up this year → Dan to renew for 3 years in April at \$143

Web Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### **Marketing Report**

Presented by Jeremy Gross, Committee Chair

\*No official report because of mid-year stepdown\*

Position is open!

- Mostly involved with Facebook updates and communicating items that should be added to the website.

Marketing Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### [Open Water Report](#) - *Dedicated to Barney Hungerford\**

Presented by Delia Perez, Committee Chair

Highlights:

- Potential to post Delia's report to the website or send as an email blast to LMSC
  - Delia collaborating with Dan to work on getting a little spot on our website to post the annual open water report
- Had a number of rescheduled swims due to cold water temperatures, rough water, and miscommunication of race directors (scheduled 4 swims on the same weekend in July!)
- Very active community

Open Water Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### [Coaches Report](#)

Presented by Dave Schneider, Committee Chair

Highlights:

- 33 Delaware Valley coaches have achieved some level of USMS coaching certification AND identified as coach in 2025
  - Down 9 coaches from 2024
  - May be inaccurate if coaches are not paying extra for official USMS recognition
- Level 1 Coach Certification class now offered as online video
- No Level 2 or 3 coaching classes in our LMSC in long time, closest class listed on current schedule is in Atlanta on March 1, 2026

Coaches Report accepted unanimously /S/P

### [USMS Convention Report](#)

Our LMSC again earned three (3) delegate spots to the convention which was held in a "hybrid" format for the fifth time with both online and in-person attendees. All DV LMSC delegates attended virtually. House of Delegate meetings were held September 12th through September 14th.

Delegates were Jeremy Gross, Joe Boris and Steve Dougherty. Laurie Hug represents the DV LMSC as a member of the USMS Coaches Committee but no longer gets an automatic delegate spot.

Reports supplied by the attendees are linked below, and are posted on our website. Some highlights:

[Combined report](#) from **Jeremy Gross** with input from **Joe Boris** and **Steve Dougherty**



- Jeremy Gross elected Chair (uncontested) for Colonies Zones succeeding Doug Sayles. No Vice Chair appointed at this time.
- No financial discussions as all membership fees and increases were endorsed last year.
- (Legislative change) Committees no longer need to meet in conjunction with the annual meeting.
- (Long distance change) 18 rules changes adopted by the LDC but nothing crazy
- (Rules Changes) Final rules changes not posted. No significant changes were made to swimming or operating meets.

### USMS Coaches Report from Laurie Hug

- Laurie, Michelle, and Denise attending Relay Meeting later this month (Oct. 24-26)

Convention Reports accepted unanimously /S/P

### Team Reports

Spring Valley YMCA - Gary Sangmeister

- Consistent membership, about 45 members with 18-24 average swimmers per official practice
- Successfully able to prevent additional fees for master program (YMCA membership)
- Able to help raise \$2500 for the YMCA and was rewarded with Saturday swims outside in the summertime
- Rocky Run YMCA may be starting a masters team so may help with that development

Colonials 1776 - Steve Dougherty

- Currently have 181 members (Down from 195 members in 2024)
- Have consistent group that works out at Wissahickon HS and Germantown Academy (winter/spring) and The Fort Washington Swim Club (summer/fall)
- Won 1<sup>st</sup> Place at DV Champs
- Had 2 swimmers participate in SCY Nationals in San Antonio, TX (March)
- Had 3 swimmers participate in LCM Nationals in Federal Way, WA (August)

First State Swimming - Courtney Ford, Julie Corman

- Potential for doing meet this SCY season or next one at Milford Boys and Girls Club
  - Haven't held a meet in DE since 2017
- Coach Jen and Courtney participated in Nationals in Sarasota
- Now 501C3 with 12 board members
  - Julie Corman - board president
- Attempting to start fundraising/advertising for building 50m pool in lower Delaware

FINS - Rupert Seals

- Great attendance in the summertime at Kelly Pool
- At Friends Select School 6 days a week
- Lots of new younger members with approx. 6 coaches
- FINS to host a meet maybe in the near future?
  - Jimmy Ellis at the Kroc Center

Chambersburg Chargers - Mark Zucka

- Smaller consistent group at practices but don't get out to too many meets → interested in having more Central PA meets
  - Ability to utilize Mercersburg Academy for meets (long course or short course) & eager to host a meet

Team Reports accepted unanimously /S/P

### **Team/group reps and reports**

(representation gleaned from those attending today's meetings) for the LMSC Board (per by-laws):

- Spring Valley Y – Jeremy Gross, Joe Boris, Gary Sangmeister
- 1776 – Steve Dougherty, Laurie Hug
  - Workout Group - Valley Forge Masters - Dave Schneider
- FINS – Rupert Seals
- Wilkes-Barre/Pittston - Dan Allen, Nancy Kelly
- First State Swimming - Courtney Ford, Julie Corman
- Chambersburg Chargers - Mark Zucka

Motion to adjourn meeting by Geoff Meyer at 2:35 pm /S/P

Submitted by Alex Bromley, Secretary  
Electronic copy submitted to USMS National Office \_\_\_\_\_.