

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wisconsin Masters Swim Committee (WMSC)
October 4, 2025

Board Members Present: Mike Murray, Melodee Liegl, Mary Schneider, Jennifer May, Jerry Lourigan, Melinda Mann, Fred Russell, Julie Paque, Jennifer Vallo, Jenny Moeller

Swim Members Present: John Pierce, Steve Justinger

Excused Absences: Elyce Dilworth and Chip Quade, Carl Millholland

The meeting was called to order by Mary Schneider.

WMSC Board Reports

Chair – Mary Schneider

- Chaired Annual Meeting in 2024
- Virtually attended USMS Annual Convention as a voting delegate
- Participated in Zone meeting before USMS convention
- Wrote Chair column for the newsletter
- Wrote monthly email for members reminding them of upcoming events
- Responded to email questions from members
- Worked on 2026 budget with Treasurer
- Updated Wisconsin Masters Policies and had them posted to the website
- Sent 2025 Annual Meeting notice to members timely

Vice Chair – Julie Paque

- Gave input as a member of the Executive Committee

Secretary – Jennifer May

- Took minutes on 5Oct24 for the Annual Meeting of WMSC. Gave input as a member of the Executive Committee

Treasurer – Mike Murray

- On a monthly basis: Reconcile USMS statement to bank statement, reconcile bank statement, checking and savings, publish financial statements to Finance Committee.
- Generate financial statement for: USMS annually, WMSC Annual meeting.
- Prepare annual budget.
- Receive, audit, approve and reimburse expenses in a timely manner.
- Wrote reimbursement checks: Club and Coaches.
- Assist WMSC Chair.

WMSC Committee Chair Reports

Sanction Chair – Melinda Mann

Wisconsin Masters sanctioned 10 Pool and 1 Open Water event this past season. The Open Water Swim, the 8 mile 1st Annual Swim of Legends, was held in Geneva Lake, WI.

Meet Directors were instructed to submit all meet documents to the Sanctions Chair prior to requesting a sanction to ensure accuracy before publication.

Registration Chair – Julie Paque

- Sent emails upon request of the chair, club, and to remind swimmers of meet deadlines.
- Identified over 80-year-old swimmers eligible for membership reimbursement
- Received OEVT listings from meets and forwarded to USMS and treasurer
- Provided swimmer contact information to chair and club as requested

Open Water/Long Distance Chair - Jennifer Vallo

USMS sponsored the inaugural “Swim of Legends” in Geneva Lake, WI on July 27, 2025. It was an 8 mile event (24 solo swimmers, four 4-person relay teams and two 2-person relay teams competed).

There were two open water events in Wisconsin: Booth Lake Memorial Swim on May 31, 2025 (2.5k and 5k distances) and Swim Neshonoc on June 22, 2025 (1.2 mile and 2.4 mile distances). These events are not USMS sponsored, but both are well attended and give local open water swimmers a chance to compete close to home.

USMS sponsored the following Open Water National Championships in 2025:

- April 4: Sprint-Distance-Sarasota, FL
- April 5: Long-Distance-Sarasota, FL
- May 31: Cable-Charlottesville, VA
- July 13: Ultramarathon-Distance: Portland, OR

USMS Open Water National Championships scheduled for 2026: dates TBD.

USMS sponsored several virtual and fitness events throughout the year to help keep us motivated and in the pool.

USMS will sponsor Virtual Championships for 2026:

- January 1-31: 1-Hour
- May 15-September 15: 5k/10k
- September 15-November 15: 3000/6000

Communications Chair – Carl Millholland

As Newsletter Editor, I published a newsletter 6 times in the past 12 months. The newsletter is a conduit for information about the LMSC and WISC club, and includes photos and narratives about events in Wisconsin, and Nationals.

Between our website, Facebook and USMS publications, some of the content such as coaching tips and *detailed* meet information isn't as necessary as in the past. I view my top goal as providing articles of interest to the membership. I'd like to see more stories from Wisconsin swimmers covering swim treks or challenging swims such as the Mackinac Bridge swim. Right now, only one swimmer sends me these items, but I'm sure there are many more stories among our members. I plan to call for more content in the next newsletter.

Because my part-time occupation has taken me away from some meets, I was not able to attend some of the events. I've relied on Dave Watts and Mary Schneider to report from meets I could not attend. I've also received write-ups on Nationals from the coaching team and Mary. Getting good content and photos is

always a challenge, and I plan to try to anticipate when future events occur and recruit someone to assist me in reporting. If anyone on the swim committee or member has ideas about what we should be printing, please let me know.

Webmaster – Chip Quade

I started in my role on September 3, 2025.

In addition to posting material as requested, I have:

- Reviewed existing materials for accuracy and timeliness and updated them as appropriate.
- Checked the site for spelling, punctuation, and grammar issues, and updated text where needed.
- Updated the formatting of some site materials, to improve readability in accord with standard web publishing practices.

Auditor – Elyce Dilworth

I reviewed the monthly financial reporting packages and the year-end financial statements which are submitted to USMS. I also filed Form 990-N with the IRS and completed the annual report for the WI Dept. of Financial Institutions.

Coaches Rep – Fred Russell

- **Coach Recruitment & Planning:**
Initiated outreach to State Coaches to identify potential coaching support for the 2025 WISC National Team in San Antonio. Provided guidance on coaching roles, logistics, and expectations. Began early conversations to gauge interest for the 2026 cycle to support long-term planning and continuity.
- **Spring Nationals Leadership (San Antonio):**
Served as Head Coach for the Wisconsin delegation at Spring Nationals, stepping in after Co-Head Coach Dave Clark was unable to attend due to a car accident. Supported 60 WI swimmers through 25–30 hours of pre-event planning and on-site coordination.
- **Newsletter Contribution:**
Authored a post-event article for the WISC Newsletter, highlighting team performance and experiences at Spring Nationals.
- **Workout Program Development & Distribution:**
Created and distributed a full year of weekly workouts to over 100 contacts, including entire workout groups. Approximately 40–50% of the WISC Team engaged with the workouts to varying degrees.
- **Board Participation:**
Actively participated in WISC and Wisconsin Masters Board Meetings to contribute to organizational strategy and community development.
- **Athlete & Coach Engagement at Meets:**
Attended two Wisconsin meets during the 2024–2025 season to connect with current and prospective National Team swimmers and coaches—while also competing and enjoying the sport.

Fitness Committee – Melodee Leigl

Hosted the 2024 Water Warriors with 31 participants this year. This year gift cards from Swim Outlet for first place finishers and small dry bags for other participants (Amazon).

Also provide updates on my marathon swimming adventures for the Newsletter (next Newsletter will have something with my Washington swim).

Top Ten Recorder – Jeanne Seidler

The Top 10 Recorder in the LMSC is the last stop that meet results and Meet Manager files make before being passed on to the USMS Top 10 Administrator. The Top 10 Recorder is responsible for applying many rules to the data and checking for errors.

Meet Directors need to make every effort to ensure that the results of an event are complete and correct before the meet ends, on the meet day. When running the meet, if a problem occurs with obtaining the results from touch pads, the meet director should stop the meet and get the results back on track before resuming the meet.

The meet director must also pay careful attention to what is written in the meet information submitted for sanction. USMS reads the meet information and will reject individual or relay results if the meet information does not match the conduct of the events. If the meet director has entered splits from longer events, the meet director needs to proofread any times that are manually entered.

The only meets forwarded to USMS for Top 10 consideration are sanctioned or recognized pool meets conducted in 25y, 25m or 50m pools that have been measured according to USMS rules. Open water or postal events are not uploaded to the USMS Event Rankings Database.

This year, the 2025 short course yards Top 10 consideration end date was May 31, 2025 with a begin date of June 25th to accommodate including the June 2024 USMS Short Course Nationals in the 2024 Top 10 consideration. The USMS 2025 Top 10 preliminary version was compiled and published in mid-September. Anyone noticing errors in the preliminary version is encouraged to report the errors to the National Swims Administrator.

Other key dates are for the LCM Top 10 and SCM Top 10. The LCM is sent in to the USMS office by the Top 10 recorder by Oct 30th. The SCM is sent to the USMS office at the end of January. It will take several months to assemble the preliminary Top 10 for swimmers.

Below is a list of the meets that have been submitted to USMS from Wisconsin for Top 10 consideration.

- 2025 Wisconsin Masters Games SCY at Schroeder
- 2025 Wis State LCM Champs at Schroeder Geoff Mykleby Memorial
- 2025 Wisconsin Masters Summer Fun Meet
- 2025 Wis SCY State Champs at Schroeder
- 2025 Spartan Splash at McFarland High School
- 2025 Wis. SCY at Whitefish Bay HS, Dave Clark Classic
- 2025 Water Wolves SCY Swim Meet at Sun Prairie West High School
- THE 2025 VERONA SCY SWIM MEET AT VERONA AQUATIC CENTER
- 2025 FOUNDERS MEET AT PABST FARMS
- 2024 JOHN BAUMAN MEMORIAL SCM MEET
- Baraboo Masters Swim Meet
- Wis Masters Games Swim Meet

Safety – Jerry Lourigan

At swim meets, designated volunteers monitor both the pool and deck areas to ensure swimmers enter the water feet first during warm-ups. Diving lanes are typically supervised at both ends when first set up to maintain safety protocols.

In open water events, an increasing number of swimmers are opting to wear safety buoys voluntarily. Although not a USMS-sanctioned event, the popular Wisconsin swim *Point to La Pointe* now mandates that all participants wear a swim buoy for added safety.

Officials – Susan Wagner

- I secure qualified Officials to work Wisconsin Masters Swim Meets .
- I share updates and direction from United States Masters Swimming to the Wisconsin Master's Officials.

Discussion:

1. Announcements from the Chair, Mary Schneider

- None

2. Elections

- There were no nominations from the floor for any of the officer positions. Officers were voted in by acclamation.
- Chair – Mary Schneider
- Vice-Chair – Julie Paque (until 31Dec2025)
- Secretary – Jennifer May
- Treasurer – Jenny Moeller

Appointment of Committee Chairs

Communications – Carl Millholland

- Newsletter -Carl Millholland
- Webmaster – Chip Quade

Registrar – Julie Paque (until 31Dec2025)

Coaches – Fred Russell

Sanctions – Melinda Mann

Long Distance/Open Water – Jen Vallo

Safety – Jerry Lourigan

Officials – Susan Wagner

Fitness – Melodee Liegl

Top 10 Recorder –Jeanne Seidler

Auditor – Elyce Dilworth

3. New Business

- Budget proposals include (see Appendix A):
 - Remove \$500 grant to meet hosts. It is noted that meet hosts can continue apply for additional funds per the policy, Make Meet Host Whole.
 - Remove Club and Workout Group (WOG) Registration Fee Reimbursement
 - Remove donation to Senior Games
 - Delete fee for “One Time Reimbursement of OVET” (it should be \$0)
- Date for next year's annual meeting – 3Oct2025 at 9:30am

Approved Motions:

- Fred moved and Jerry seconded the motion to accept the 2024 annual meeting minutes.
- Officer and Chair reports, election of officers and appointment of committee chairs were approved by acclamation.

Chair - Mary Schneider
Vice Chair – Julie Paque
Treasurer – Jennifer Moeller

Secretary – Jennifer May

- Mike moved and Melinda seconded to accept the meet schedule as proposed.
- Jen May moved and Jerry seconded the motion for the budget to be approved as amended.

Mary called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jen moved and Jerry seconded the motion. Motion was approved, and Mary adjourned the meeting 9:45am.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer May

Secretary, WMSC

Appendix A

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
					Amended Budget 2026	
		Qty	Amt	Notes		
1	Income Categories					
1	Donations					
1	Interest Earned					
1	USMS Pool Sanction Fee					
1	USMS Open Water Sanction Fee					
1	WMSC Sanction Fee					
1	One Event Registration - USMS	50		Pass thru to USMS - WMSC should get \$4 off every OEVT	800	
1	One Event Registration - WMSC	50			200	
0	Registrations - Clubs & Work Out Groups					
1	Registration Income	525	10	2025 was \$12/swimmer, 2026 \$10/swimmer	5250	
2	unassigned					
3	Meet Income WOW Swim					
4	Total Income Categories *				6250	
6	Expense Categories					
7	ALTS Stipends to Trainers	2	250		500	
8	ALTS Classes for Swimmers					
9	Water Warrior				625	
10	Medals for State Meet				1,000	
11	Coaching Certification - Level 1	3	150		450	
	Coaching Certification - Level 2 or 3	2	200		400	
12	Coaching Grant \$500 (for coach clinic)	1	500		500	
13	USMS Relay Event - Annual	2	750		1,500	
14	USMS Convention - Virtual					
15	Insurance OWS Paid to USMS					
16	Memorials for Deceased Members				50	
17	Newsletter				50	
18	Office Expense				50	
19	One Event Registration - USMS				800	
20	Rule Book	4	10		40	
21	Web Site and ISP Fees				180	
22	Wisconsin Corp Fee				25	
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3	Intentional Spend Down of WMSC Reserves				--	
4	80+ swimmers	7	75		525	
5	USMS Membership for Officials	1	75		75	
6	Pool Sanction Paid to USMS					
6	Wisc Senior Games Recognition				100	
7	Open Water Sanction Paid to USMS					
8	Total Registration Expense (excludes One Event)					
9	Cover Club and WOG registration fee					
0	Pass Thru to WISC					
1	Stroke Clinic(s)					
2	Local Open Water Swim					
3	Start New WOGs					
4	One Time Reimbursement of OVET			swimmers who convert membership within 30 days	0	
5	Pay USMS Coaches fee for WMSC Coaches					
6	Grant for each day of a swim meet	0	0		0	
8	Donation to Senior Games with stipulations					
9	Reimburse WOGs for 2026 Registration					
9	Total Expense Categories				6,870	
0						
1	Income less Expenses				620.00	