
Coaches

Committee Members

Molly Hoover, Chair; Aaron Schneider, Vice Chair

Karyn Austin, Marcia Benjamin, Angie Brennan, Robert Duguay, Doug Garcia, Michael Hamm, Laurie Hug, Barbara Ingold, Wynne Kirchner, Jacky Merianos, James Miller, Todd Samland, Gretchen Sanders

Ex-Officio: Kenny Brisbin, Vice President of Community Services

Introduction

The Coaches Committee continues to support our membership with quality training and information for coaches throughout the country. All committee members are actively engaged in various areas to provide high level service and opportunities to USMS Coaches.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Annual Meeting

1. National Coaches Clinic - All sessions and presenters are confirmed, and presenters have started working on their presentations. Having Golden Goggles at the same time has given us some opportunity to involve some Olympic swimmers and coaches during the weekend, and we are very excited about that! Thank you to Aaron for helping to set up another amazing offering for coaches.
2. Web Workouts: Fourteen new coaches were hired to be workout writers for 2026. The National Office had them all up and running by January and it felt like a smooth transition. We are working with the National Office to track usage of the various areas and trying to collect more statistics on clicks and views.
3. Awards: The awards submission window has officially closed. The sub-committee is now reviewing nominations and selecting this year's Kerry O'Brien Award recipients and Coach of the Year, both of which will be presented at NCC.
4. Education and Level 4 certification: Congratulations to Bill Brenner on his retirement! Coach Education is currently on hold as the National Office evaluates how best to move forward with this offering.
5. LMSC Communication: Emails are being sent to Coaches Chairs with important information the Coaches Committee wishes to share. Our hope is that these Coaches Chairs are then sharing the info with the coaches throughout their LMSC.
6. Mentoring: Mentoring is still a priority for the committee and we are always seeking coaches who wish to be mentored so we can pair them up with experienced coaches.

7. On Deck Coaching: The On Deck Coaching slots for Spring Nationals in Greensboro were full. This was fantastic and a great help to all the swimmers spread out through 20 lanes during warm ups. The slots for Summer Nationals had a good turn out but still had spots open as of the start of the meet.
8. Publications: A couple members of our committee are working with the National Office on some workout articles. We continue to look for coaches who wish to contribute articles through the website or streamlines. Our committee is happy to help authors get started or put ideas into words.
9. Peer to Peer: We have been able to add a coaches social to both national meets this year as we did last year. This has been a great way for coaches to get together away from the meet. We also hosted a webinar led by Marcia Cleveland of Illinois regarding Open Water Training/Coaching. This had a great turnout, and we hope to do more of these in the near future.
10. Worlds: Our focus is turning to providing coaches to Worlds, which will next be held in 2027 in Budapest. We are working with the National Office to possibly staff two coaches for this meet due to its size and spread-out venues.

Action Items

1. Work with the National Office as needed to develop Coach Education offerings moving forward. Many of our members are happy to take on leadership roles in this.
2. Continue to find ways to connect coaches. Last year, we started a workout exchange through Discord that became a great way for coaches to share what they are doing. Seeing the success of the webinar has created excitement on future plans for more of those. In-person socials are rare but a fantastic opportunity to touch base and we plan to keep providing these in the future as well.

Agenda

1. Attendance
2. Welcome
3. Sub-committees
 - a. Web Workouts (Gretch)
 - b. NCC/Relay (Aaron)
 - c. Awards (Laurie)
 - d. Education (Mike)
 - e. Level 4 Applications (James/Laurie)
 - f. LMSC Communication (Marcia)
 - g. Mentoring (Todd)
 - h. On Deck Coaching (Robert)
 - i. Publications (doug)
 - j. Peer to Peer Calls (Jacky)
 - k. World's/Pan Am's (Jacky)
4. Liaisons
 - a. D&I (Kenny)

- b. ALTS (Mike)
 - c. LMSC Development (Aaron)
 - d. Long Distance (Gretch)
5. Other Business -

Coaches Committee Meeting

[Tuesday, August 11, 2026 8:00pm-9:00pm EST | Zoom Registration Link](#)