

FINA Representative

Mel Goldstein

Chairman Masters Technical Committee

The Covid 19 pandemic continued to have its effect on international masters' events, as many events were cancelled throughout 2020. The FINA World Masters Championships scheduled for the Summer of 2020 was postponed and has been rescheduled for May 31-June9,2022. The FINA World Masters Championships will be held in Fukuoka and two additional cities on the Island of Kysushu. Plans for the championship are on schedule and it should be a well-attended, and exciting championships.

On June 5, 2021 at the Fina Congress in Doha a new FINA President, Husain Al Musallam was elected along with other FINA Bureau members. These elections created changes in a few FINA Technical Committees, most notably the FINA Masters Technical Committee. Mel Goldstein was named Chairman, for the remainder of the present committee's tenure through the FINA World Masters Championships in 2022, in Fukuoka. New committees will be formed by the new president and ratified by the FINA Bureau in Fukuoka. This appointment bodes well for US Masters Swimming. The FINA Masters Committee has been in existence for over 40 years, while USMS has been a leader in International Masters swimming, they have never had a chairman of this committee. This opens the door for future USMS FINA representatives to ascend to this position.

During my tenure as the USMS FINA Liaison I have been a proponent of master's Program Development, with successful coaches and swimmers clinics in Argentina and Paraguay. The committee continues pursue master's Program Development and will host a least one clinic for Coaches and Swimmers later this year or early next year.



Liaison and Special Appointments Reports

International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Liaison

Jessica Seaton

IGLA did not take place in 2021 due to Covid 19. The IGLA Board is focused on resolving concerns around the 2022 Gay Games in Hong Kong, and considering bids for IGLA 2023.

International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison

Jack Groselle

ISHOF (International Swimming Hall of Fame)

ISHOF has developed a new program, "One in a Thousand" to help it through this difficult time. Between the COVID-19 and being under construction, it's a hard time for ISHOF. If you want to help ISHOF, just click on the link below. You can join and help out for as little as \$10 a month. I have attached the info below. Our goal is to get 1,000 aquatic people to join to get us through this pandemic. Every little bit helps!

<https://www.swimmingworldmagazine.com/news/international-swimming-hall-of-fame-asks-if-you-are-one-in-a-thousand/>

Be sure and watch the video to see what is happening at ISHOF!



National Board of Review

Juliet Cox

USMS National Board of Review Chair

Patty Miller graciously served as Interim Chair of the National Board of Review between September and November 2020. I became Chair in mid-November 2020.

NBR Hearing Panelists

The pool of NBR hearing panelists currently is complete. The available panelists are:

- Tom Boak (South Texas LMSC)
- Nathan Dean (Potomac Valley LMSC)
- Arlette Godges (Southern Pacific LMSC)
- Laura Groselle (Florida LMSC)
- Karen Chuang Harris (Pacific LMSC)
- Ian King (Pacific LMSC)
- Chris McGiffin (New Jersey LMSC)
- Tom Moore (Minnesota LMSC)
- Sandi Rousseau (Oregon LMSC)
- Meg Smath (Kentucky LMSC)
- Paul Smith (Arizona LMSC)
- Erin Sullivan (Nebraska LMSC)
- Diana Triana (South Texas LMSC)
- Greg Weber (South Carolina LMSC)
- Sarah Welch (Pacific NW LMSC)

Each of these panelists except for Tom Boak participated in one grievance hearing between September 2020 and August 2021. I also participated in one hearing as a panelist before becoming Chair.

Grievance Activity

The NBR has addressed and resolved five grievances since September 2020. In each case, the Interim Chair or I appointed a three-person hearing panel. Each panel received information and argument in writing, held a hearing by videoconference, and prepared a written decision. The USMS National Office maintains records from each of these grievances.

Three grievances were administrative grievances initiated by USMS CEO Dawson Hughes, regarding USMS members who are ineligible to participate in USA Swimming. A fourth grievance also was an administrative grievance initiated by Mr. Hughes, regarding a USMS

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member who used racially offensive language in communicating with a USMS employee. The fifth grievance was by one USMS member against another, regarding a conflict during a USMS club workout.

Other Activity

In late 2020, Sarah Welch chaired a special committee to review the NBR's function and procedures and to make recommendations for improvement. The committee produced a report that the Board of Directors received and considered in February 2021. The LMSC Development Committee and Coaches Committee have begun to develop some training programs based on the committee's recommendations. As NBR Chair I also intend to develop some protocol improvements based on gaps or problems the committee identified, and possibly also to recommend some rule changes. I have not yet focused on these tasks, however.

National Senior Games

Bill Tingley

Due to the disruptions caused by the pandemic, and out of an abundance of caution, National Senior Games Association made the decision to postpone the 2021 Ft Lauderdale National Senior Games to May 10-23, 2022.

Swimming will be conducted at Plantation Central Park Aquatic Complex in Plantation, FL, May 13-16, 2022. [Order of Events Link](#)

By postponing the Games to 2022, NSGA's hope is that COVID fears will be greatly reduced and more athletes will be comfortable with travel, training and participation.

Adjustments to the qualification and registration process that NSGA adopted in response to the pandemic will remain in place for The Games in May of 2022. In addition, NSGA has extended the qualifying period through December 31, 2021. Athletes who meet the sport/event qualification standards at a qualifying state senior games in 2021 will qualify for the National Senior Games in May of 2022. [Adjusted Qualification for the National Senior Games Link](#)

The various State Senior Games, which are the qualifying games, COVID continues to impact each state differently so the ability to stage events in 2021 varied by state or region. The state qualifying senior games are independently managed and have been directly communicating with athletes about the status of their events in 2021. Swimmers should directly contact the state senior games office(s) in any location(s) where an athlete plans to participate in any remaining state games in 2021. [State Games Link](#)

The National Senior Games has been recognized by the host LMSC for the last 10 games. The New Mexico LMSC was our host LMSC in 2019 and all of the times achieved by USMS registered swimmers, both national records and Top 10 swims, were reported to USMS in 2019. Some state Senior Games have applied for and have received USMS recognition during the pandemic. NSGA will apply for a USMS Recognition from Gold Coast LMSC in the near future.

UANA Representative

Mel Goldstein

Chairman Masters Technical Committee

Union Americana de Natacion (UANA) is the Continental governing body under FINA that encompasses North America, South America, Central America, and the Caribbean nations (44 Federations). United States Aquatic Sports represents one of the four zones under the UANA banner. The logos shown are under UANA banner.



The UANA Pan American Masters Championships scheduled for 2020 was postponed until 2021. The Covid 19 pandemic continued into 2021 in many countries, and the Championships were again postponed and scheduled for July 21-28, 2022. Athletes who entered were given the option of receiving a refund or to remain in the system until the championships in 2022. The refund process is now complete, and the LOC is now planning for a successful championship with registration re-opening January 1, 2022.

The Covid 19 pandemic has tested our resolve, and many events scheduled have been cancelled or postponed. To fill the void of no competition, the UANA Masters Technical will host virtual events in Swimming, Artistic Swimming, Open Water, and Diving from September 1- October 17, 2021. In addition to the virtual events a “UANA Masters Town Hall Meeting” webinar was held in August to discuss the State of Masters Swimming in the Americas and future events.

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The postponement of the championships in 2021, resulted in a change of future championships. The UANA Pan American Masters Championships scheduled for Trinidad / Tobago in 2022, will be in 2024, and the championships scheduled for Buenos Aires in 2024, will now be held in 2026. The exact dates for these championships will be announced.