

Jill Gellatly – Southwest Zone Candidate for At-Large Director



The Election Committee has deemed that Jill Gellatly is a member in good standing of U.S. Masters Swimming. The candidate has indicated she is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during her tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Kenny Brisbin* and received letters of recommendation from *Tom Boak* and *Nadine Day* in accordance with the USMS Election Operating Guidelines.

The candidate provided the following responses on the Candidate Questionnaire/Consent-to-Run Form:

Section Two: Candidate Qualifications

I am a member in good standing of USMS in this election year: X Yes ___ No

I am planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year: X Yes ___ No

I am planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: X Yes ___ No

I have attended 1 or more HOD Meeting in the past five years? X Yes ___ No

Please list the USMS National HOD Meetings you have attended, including the dates of attendance:

All conventions from 2006-2019 except 2017

Section Three: Questions

Why are you interested in this position and why do you believe you would be a good candidate?

In October 2019, I was selected to fill a vacated position on the BOD as the At-Large SW Zone Director. However, leaving after just one short year seems like “quitting”, a word that is not part of my daily vocabulary.

My passion for the sport of swimming and desire to making USMS the best it can be is second to none. Volunteering takes time and effort to be impactful. I believe I am just getting started on making my footprint in the current environment.

My diverse involvement in various committees at both the local and national level over the last fourteen years has exposed me to many facets of USMS and allowed me to gain valuable insights. These experiences, including past BOD experience, combined with my passion for swimming make me strong candidate for the position.

What do you consider to be the major issues facing USMS now and in the future? As a person holding an elected position within USMS, how would you address these issues?

Given the timing of this application, I would be remiss if I did not mention the global pandemic. It is more important than ever that we safeguard the well-being of our members, volunteers, and employees during these unprecedented times. While safety and well-being of our membership is paramount, it is equally important to plan for both the short and long-term future of USMS. While the impact and duration of the global pandemic is uncertain, with proper planning, we can become a stronger, more united organization. It is in the time of adversity that good organizations become great ones.

My twenty-five years of various financial accounting roles and three years of athletic administration provide me with the skillset to lead these tasks at the BOD level. If elected, I would continue to use my financial background to protect the financial interests of the organization to ensure long-term viability. Most important, my experience leading the 2016 Strategic Task force demonstrates my knowledge of the organizations current mission, values, and goals. While there is one year left in the five-year plan, it is important the next strategic plan puts us in a position to grow membership and continue to protect the brand we have created.

Membership will always be a top priority. Equally important to membership is the development of our on-deck coaches and our ability to deliver consistent programming at the local levels. This will be accomplished by further strengthening our coaches training programs and continued outreach to local leaders. We will continue to be challenged by limited pool space and it will be our responsibility as a BOD and organization to build partnerships and use creativity to provide more water access, events and programming for our members. Last, staying current with technology and social media are at the forefront of almost all businesses and we are no different. Building these platforms will become increasingly important to the future success of USMS. As a BOD member, I will ensure that our financial resources and efforts are directed towards advancing all these directives

Please list USMS committees on which you have served. Include the dates you were on the committees and the names of the committee chairs under whom you served:

Board of Directors- At-Large Director, SW Zone (2019-2020)

Board of Directors – At -Large Director, South Central (2012-2016)

Strategic Plan Task Force- Chair 2016; Member 2011- Chair Patty Miller

Leadership Summit Task Force Chair- 2015; Vice Chair 2017 (Paige Buehler Chair 2017)

Membership Services/Products Task Force Chair- 2012

South Central Zone Chair- 2007-2011

Audit Committee (2010-Current); Chair 2010-2014; Vice Chair 2015; Elyce Dilworth (Chair 2016-2020)

Finance Committee- (2019- Current)- Chair Jeanne Ensign

Finance Committee-(2010-2012)- Chair Homer Lane

Championship Committee (2008-2009)- Chair Mark Moore

Long Distance Committee (2007)- Chair Marcia Cleveland

Please list any other experience that relates to your qualifications for the position.

Gulf LMSC, Chairman 2011-2015

Gulf LMSC, Secretary- 2006-2010

University of Houston Athletics- 1997-2000, Assistant Ticket Manager/ Men's Basketball Administration

Please list any other information you would like included.

CPA license (Registered in Texas since 1991)

Masters in Sports Management (M Ed, University of Georgia)

Bachelor Business, Accounting (BBA, Texas A&M University)

Please write a short summary statement that will be posted on the display board with your photograph at the HOD Meeting

As detailed above, I have served in a variety of volunteer and leadership positions at both the LMSC and National level during my 14 years of service within the USMS community.

I am strongly committed to further my appointment on the USMS Board of Directors in order to continue promoting the organization's missions, values and strategic goals.

My love for the sport of swimming combined with my experience are the perfect combination to lead USMS into the new decade.

Nomination Letter for
Jill Gellatly - At Large SW Zone

From: Kenny Brisbin, USMS Coaches Chair and SPMS Vice Chair/Sanction Chair

Date: 4-10-20

To: The Elections Committee

I am submitting this letter for nomination for Jill Gellatly for At Large SW Zone.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenny Brisbin
Long Beach Grunions Coach
USMS Chair Coaches Committee
SPMS Vice Chair & Meet Operations

Thomas D. Boak Jr.

April 7, 2020

To: Chair of the USMS Election Committee

Re: Recommendation for Jill Gellatly

Position of At-Large Director, Southwest Zone

Sometimes when you're asked to write a letter of recommendation, you're not sure that you're the right person to submit one. However, in this case there is no doubt. Jill Gellatly grew up just down the street from my house. I have known her and her family since she was seven years old. I watched her compete as a young girl, through high school and as a Masters athlete. A number of years ago, recognizing that she had a lot to contribute to our organization, I encouraged her to get involved. The rest is history.

In the area of Finance, she has few equals - a Bachelor's Degree in Business, Accounting; a Master's Degree in Sports Management, and a licensed CPA plus years of work experience. IN USMS, she has spent years serving on both the Audit Committee and the Finance Committee. But her experience is not limited to the area of Finance. She has served on Long Distance and Championship Committees; she has served on the Membership Services, Leadership Summit and Strategic Plan Task Forces; was the South Central Zone Chair from 2007-2011; and was a member of the Board of Directors from 2012-2016 representing the South Central Zone and is currently on the Board representing the Southwest Zone. Jill has also been active at the local level, serving as Gulf LMSC Secretary and Chair.

Jill loves the challenge of long-distance swims and has had the luxury of being able to travel to events both inside and outside the United States. She has been a great ambassador for our sport, both as a great swimmer but also as a great person.

Just in case my message isn't totally clear, I cannot think of anyone more qualified to serve as a member of the USMS Board of Directors. I highly recommend her for this position.

Yours truly,

Thomas D. Boak Jr.

USAS Treasurer, USMS Board of Directors

USMS Past President, USMS Past Treasurer, Past Chair of the Finance Committee



**U.S. MASTERS
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Letter of Recommendation:

From: Nadine Day, USMS Past President

Date: 04/26/2020

Subject Line: Letter of Recommendation for Jill Gellatly for Candidate for South West At Large Director

To: The Elections Committee

It is my honor to write this letter of recommendation for Jill Gellatly to the USMS House of Delegates as an At Large Board of Director Candidate for the South West Zone. Jill was appointed to a vacant position last year. She has been vital to the Board of Director this year. She has been very vocal and active to ensure the correct financial and strategic decisions are being made.

Last year, the House of Delegates entrusted the Board of Directors with the Annual Budget of USMS. It is vital that we have people like Jill with financial backgrounds on the board. Jill is a CPA and is a member of the USMS Finance and Audit committees. Professionally, Jill makes corporate decisions daily that impact people's lives. She actively understands the perspectives of others. She is not running for this position as a resume or a title. She is dedicating her valuable time to make decisions for the members of this organization. While Jill is considered a competitive member, she also has friends, whom are fitness members and learn to swim members. These relationships allow her to make strategic decisions for all members.

Jill understands all levels of the organization. She has served as the chair and secretary of the Gulf LMSC and been involved nationally since 2006. At the National level, she has served on the USMS Long Distance (which was previously combined committee with Open Water), Championships, Finance and Audit committees. These committees all make major financial decisions for our organization. Most importantly, one way Jill stands out from any candidate is her previous leadership on the Strategic Task Force and Membership Task Force.

Jill's ability to lead and make strategic decisions combined with her financial background is vital for the success of our organization.

Swimcerely,

Nadine Day, Past President of USMS
Current nonvoting member of the USMS BOD