

Dan Cox - Candidate for Vice President of Administration



The Election Committee has deemed that Dan Cox is a member in good standing of USMS. The candidate has indicated he is planning to attend the HOD Meeting for this election year and, if elected, is planning to attend all HOD Meetings during his tenure in office.

The candidate was nominated by *Jay DeFinis* and received letters of recommendation from *Skip Thompson and Paige Buehler* in accordance with our 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: Yes No

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

I am Planning to attend all HOD Meetings during my tenure in office: Yes No

I have attended more than 1 HOD Meeting in the past five years: Yes No

I am a resident and a member of the Zone from which I seek election (Director Candidates only): Yes No N/A

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

2003 San Diego
2004 Orlando
2005 Greensboro
2006 Dearborn
2007 Anaheim
2008 Atlanta
2009 Chicago
2010 Dallas
2011 Jacksonville
2012 Greensboro
2014 Jacksonville
2015 Kansas City
2016 Atlanta Ga

Section Three: Questions

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

I am interested in continuing on the Board of USMS as Vice-President of Administration in order to see some of the initiatives I am involved in as Great Lakes Director become a reality. If for any reason the President is unable to fulfill the duties of the office, the Vice-President of Administration would assume the role as President. This person needs to be familiar with the many issues facing USMS and what steps are currently in place to work on those issues; if a transition becomes necessary, it should be done seamlessly.

Whoever serves as Vice President of Administration should have a working knowledge and understanding of the committees they are responsible for, Legislation, Rules, Championship and Registration. In my service to USMS, I have served on the Legislation Committee and as Meet Director for Ohio Masters (I was selected to be the Meet Director by Gay Games when they came to Cleveland for this six day International Meet). As Chair of Lake Erie, I was involved in overseeing our Registration Volunteers. These areas of service combined with the three years I served on the Board of Directors make me uniquely qualified to serve USMS as Vice President of Administration.

My other service with USMS began when I volunteered at the 2002 Long Course National Championship in Cleveland. From 2004 to the present, I have served in a number of positions, both at the local and national levels. These include President of Ohio Masters Swim Club, Lake Erie LMSC Chairman, Great Lake Zone Chair, Meet Director for the Gay Games in Cleveland Ohio, and my current position as Great Lakes Director.

My service in these positions has given me the opportunity to learn about USMS and assist to improve/enhance our originations at each level. To help enhance our programs on the local level, I established Coach and College Programs. These Programs helped enhance the experience of our members through continuing education for our Coaches to improve their skills. The College Program helped support young swimmers to join USMS; they are the future of our organization. In my position as Great Lakes Director, I served on the task force to find our new CEO, am currently on the College Club Task Force, and the current Chair of our Futures Task Force. These task forces have played (or will play) a integral part in the strategic growth of USMS.

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?

Membership: Our membership growth is flat with only a small increase. We need to focus on new ways to reach out to both our current membership and potential membership. These issues are being address right now with the Futures Task force and the College Club initiative. The Futures Task force is focusing on how to attract younger members, and the College Club initiative has the potential to be a huge pipeline of members to our ranks. In the Futures Task force (which I Chair), we are exploring why some clubs attract younger members while others do not. We are researching the "why" and then come up with ways to teach other clubs to duplicate their success in this area. The other issue our Futures Task Force is looking at is why people leave us? We will be surveying the people who have left and ask them why; then we will work with the data to find ways to increase our retention rate. Another idea to increase our retention rate would be to implement a lifetime membership (or auto renewal), which would be at no cost to USMS.

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:

USMS Board of Directors -2014- to present
College Club Initiative 2015- to present-Kyle Dreery Chair
CEO Search Task force- 2015-2016 Ed Tsuzuki Chair
Futures Task Force 2016 to present- Daniel Cox Chair
HQ Move Task Force –2015 Ed Tsuzuki Chair
Legislation Committee- 2004 -2015 – Rob Copland, Sean Fitzgerald Chair
Great Lakes Zone Chair 2009-2014
National Board of Review 2013-2015 –Barbara Delanois Chair
LMSC Development Committee –Vice Chair 2014-2015 Paige Buehler Chair
LMSC Development Committee- 2010-2013- Paige Buehler Chair
Election Committee 2012- Michael Moore Chair
Communications Committee 2004-2009 – Hug Moore Chair
Local:
Lake Erie LMSC Chair 2008-2012
President of Ohio Masters Swim club 2004-2008
Webmaster for both Lake Erie LMSC and Ohio Masters

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

Heights Driving School Inc. 1983- Present. CEO My duties include supervising 45 + employees, developing curriculums for teaching teens, adults, remedial and disabled drivers. Manage all financial obligations of the company.

Please list any other information you would like included.

2011 Dorothy Donnelly Service Award
2010 National Leadership award in Traffic Safety
Bachelor degree in Business/Education from The Ohio State University
Disabilities certification – Louisiana State University
Board Certified Driver Rehabilitation Specialist

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

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Northwestern Mutual

Jay M. De Finis CLTC
Wealth Management Advisor

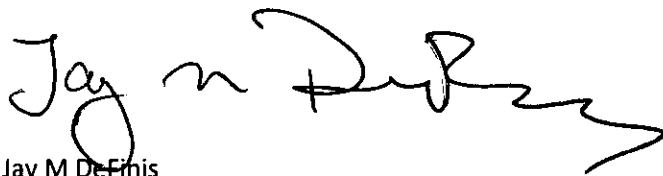
May 25, 2017

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To Whom it May Concern,

I would like to nominate Daniel P Cox for the position of Vice President of Administration.

Thank you for your consideration ,



Jay M DeFinis

Wealth Management Advisor

Cleveland, Ohio

PAIGE BUEHLER

Dear Elections Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Daniel Cox to the House of Delegates as a candidate for the position of Vice President of Administration.

Daniel would be a valuable member of the Executive Committee because he steps up to challenges and projects. Over the years during which he and I served concurrently on the LMSC Development Committee, Dan played an active role on the Education subcommittee by always taking his share, and more, of the tasks at hand. He is great on special and cyclical projects, such as the convention workshops. In 2015 and 2017, Daniel helped with creating the programming for the LMSC Leadership Summit.

Another reason why I'd recommend Daniel is because he is very adept at listening to the various points of view within a group and contributing to the conversations. He synthesizes information well and can identify the general sentiment of a group to know how to present his ideas and potential solutions.

Daniel's interactive and positive approach makes him a valuable asset in various roles within a group, among them fact-finder, liaison, devil's-advocate and supporter. He comfortably wears the hats of all his volunteer roles and uses the experience gained to help move U.S. Masters Swimming forward as an organization.

I highly recommend Daniel Cox for the position of VP-Administration and invite the Elections Committee to publish this letter in his support.

Sincerely,

Paige Buehler
Vice chair, LMSC Development Committee

Letter of Reference: For Dan Cox to the position of Vice President of Administration for USMS

To: USMS Elections Committee

Date: 5/31/17

It is my honor and privilege to recommend Dan Cox for the position of Vice President of Administration.

I have personally known Dan since he first joined USMS in 1999. He has always been a strong, enthusiastic, and positive leader within U.S. Masters Swimming both at Local, Zone, and National levels of USMS. I first noticed this at the 2002 Long Course National meet where he was heavily involved with the success of the meet. He eventually became Club President, LMSC Chair, and Webmaster in the Lake Erie LMSC.

At the USMS level, Dan became a convention delegate in 2003, and has served on the Legislation, LMSC Development, Communications, and Elections Committee. He served as the Great Lakes Zone Chair for 5 years and during that time was responsible for the implementation of the Great Lakes Open Water Swim Challenge (GLOWS). He served as a member and Vice Chair of the LMSC Development Committee for 5 years and was a key contributor of the Educational and Mentoring subcommittees.

In December of 2014, he was appointed and then elected in 2016 as the Great Lakes Zone At-Large Director of the USMS Board of Directors. Since his election to the BOD, he has been a member of the Headquarters Move Task Force, CEO Search Task Force, College Club Task Force, and the newly created Futures Task as Chair. With his experience on the LMSC Development Committee, he was heavily involved in the preparation, set up, and success of the first two LMSC Leadership Summits in both 2015 and 2017 and this was due to his experience in the planning and organizing of the workshops for delegates at the conventions. All of these contributions in just a year and half of being on the BOD, make him an outstanding candidate for the Vice President position.

One of the major challenges and issues facing USMS today and in the future is membership growth. The work of the College Club and the Futures Task Forces are trying to solve this by attracting younger members to not only join and participate in future USMS programs, but to provide adequate leadership for USMS to succeed in the future. Dan has been involved in this important mission since he first organized a college program that discounted USMS memberships in the Lake Erie LMSC. He then became Meet Director of a joint USMS/College swim meet at Cleveland State University to get them introduced to the "USMS Brand" and have the potential to join the organization as future members. The Futures Task force is in the process of implementing strategies for LMSC and USMS National involvement for both LMSC BOD positions and USMS National Committees members. Dan has been and continues to be at the forefront of this important mission as these task forces will play major role in the future success of attracting younger members.

With his experience being on the Legislation Committee and being heavily involved in the 2002 and 2015 USMS Long Course Summer Nationals plus being Meet Director of the 2014 Gay Games makes him especially qualified because he knows the work and responsibilities of the committees that fall within the purview of the position.

With his love of Masters, his proven track record, and his great attitude, there is no doubt Dan will make a top-rate Vice President of Administration for US Masters Swimming and I cannot recommend him strongly enough.

I am pleased to endorse his candidacy give my permission for this letter to be published to our USMS delegates in the Convention packet.

Sincerely, Skip Thompson