Candidate Biographies

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Program Operations Co-Chairpersons

David Brace:

Meet Director for six age group meets since 2005

Entry chair for four age group meets since 2006

Certified USAS Swimming Official since 2005
N2 National Stroke and Turn Judge
LSC Starter
LSC Deck Referee Apprentice

Swim Parent and volunteer since 2003
One middle school (soon to be high school) swimmer
Two age-group USAS swimmers

Currently Co-Chairperson Program Development, elected 2006

I feel I am highly qualified to fill the position of Program Operations Vice-Chair for Michigan Swimming. Having served as a Meet Director for six meets over the last three years and Entry Chair for four of those meets I am knowledgeable on the meet bid and sanctioning process, as well as the running of meets. I am also familiar with the meet scheduling process, having served on the Meet Scheduling Committee since 2006.

As an Official, I have officiated at 37 swim meets over the last three years (including 1 Grand Prix, 5 State Meets, 1 JO, and 2 Districts) and have had the opportunity to see MS in action. MS is the athletes, not the organization. Decisions made by the Board of Directors should always be in the best interest of the swimmers and the sport.

Program Operations is currently running smoothly. There are two areas I think need discussion and possible improvement; the LCM State Meet format and meet scheduling. Based on many conversations on the pool deck and my own observations, the LCM State Meet format needs to be modified. The current four day, ten session marathon for all age groups is too much.

Our current meet scheduling guidelines have worked over the years, however with more teams requesting to host meets, our guidelines are inadequate in addressing the number of meets on a weekend, the proximity of meets, and the number and types of meets in a season.

Program Operations is nearly a full-time volunteer job. In parts of the year when there are not meets being hosted, there is meet scheduling work to be done. That is why Margaret Green and I have chosen to run as Co-Chairs. As Co-Chairs, we can divide and conquer the workload while still providing the Host Clubs of Michigan Swimming the service they deserve.

Margaret Green

My family has been involved in USA Swimming and I have been volunteering with USAS for over 8 years. I have a son in Middle School, a daughter in High School and a daughter swimming in College.

I have been President of the Dearborn Dolphins swim team for two years and was involved with Membership before that. I have been Meet Entry Chair for DRD for over five years. I have been Co-Meet Director for three years. I have run Scoring and Meet Manager for six years for all DRD meets, the 2008 Long Course State Meet, many High School dual meets (2005 - present), several High School Conference meets (2007-2008), and several college meets (2007-2008). I am a certified USAS Stroke and Turn judge (one year) and an LSC Starter Apprentice.

I am a part-time college Instructor, teaching Computer Information Systems at Henry Ford Community College. I also volunteer several hours a week at my church and am currently PTSA President at my son's Middle School.

My views concur with Dave Brace's, I believe that MS should always have the athletes best interest in mind and we should work tirelessly to have our sport reach all swimmers of all levels, not just the elite. I also believe that MS should be a resource for and benefit all teams, and work toward making fair and equitable judgments for all teams.

David Brace, dbrace@charter.net
Margaret Green, Mlanegreen@aol.com

Stephen Potter, Candidate for Treasurer

I am interested in becoming more involved in all aspects of USA Swimming and would be proud to serve on the Michigan Swimming Board of Directors in the coming term. I have several qualifications that would help me to be an

asset to the organization. I would ask that you review my qualifications and consider me for the position of Treasurer.

1. I am General Manager of a $300-million business. I am accountable for the P&L of a financial services division within Fortune 500 General Electric, one of the world's most admired companies. In that role, I manage all aspects (finance, personnel, operations, risk, collections, marketing and sales) of a rapidly growing portfolio of products and services.

2. I was a competitive swimmer from 1969 until 1980 in Tennessee. In fact, I was still actively competing at the point when USA Swimming formed in the break from AAU Swimming. Of interest, my father was one of the first certified stroke & turn officials in the new organization. Additionally, I am a strong advocate of Swim for Life and Fit for Life initiatives and continue to swim and compete in adulthood.

3. While in college, I coached 3 summer seasons on the age-group team for which I swam. I placed three of my swimmers into division I college programs, and I had the pleasure of coaching the kid who broke my 6-year-old conference record in 100 backstroke.

4. I am the parent of two competitive swimmers (ages 11 and 13) who are active year around with East Grand Rapids Waves, and, having coached and swum, I have a unique vision of the positive (and negative) energy that is a part of the sport I love.

5. I am a very active official who is rapidly progressing through the various avenues for advancement in USA Swimming. In the 3 years I have served as an official, I have certified as a deck referee at the LSC level, N3 Stroke & Turn judge, and N2 at Chief Judge. It is my intention to continue advancing over the next several years in an effort to be considered for National Championship and FINA competitions. I've also started a number of informal initiatives on the west side of the state such as (a) donating my officiating time to my home club's meets and (b) hosting officials/coaches/parents mixers.

My background, technical understanding, and business leadership should speak volumes about how I can help Michigan Swimming in the coming years. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Stephen Potter
Stephen.Potter@ge.com

Michael Rogers, Candidate for Treasurer

Born in Fort Smith, Arkansas. Lived in Michigan since 1993 with a two year stint in Bonn, Germany. Michael graduated from Rice University in 1988 with

a B.S. in Civil Engineering and received a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame in 1992. Married for 15 years to Kerry (Quinn) Rogers who was born in San Francisco, CA but has lived appreciably all of her life in Ann Arbor, MI. Kerry graduated from Ohio University in 1988 with a degree in Computer Science and received her Maters in Business Administration from the University of Notre Dame in 1991.

Michael has been employed by the Ford Motor Company for the last 15 years where he has had many Finance Manager, Controller and subsidiary CFO assignments. His present title is Director, Corporate Finance.

Michael has significant non-profit finance experience including helping the Saline USA Swim Team with its fundraising and serving on the Finance Committee of the Travis Pointe Country Club in Ann Arbor, MI. Additionally, Michael serves on the Board of Directors of a privately held Michigan based corporation.

Michael and Kerry have two children, Kate (age 12) and Kara (age 10) who are both active in Michigan Swimming with the Saline USA Swim Team. Although all of their swimming is presently affiliated with the Saline USA Swim Team, Kate and Kara were previous members of the Travis Pointe Summer Swim Team as well as Die Schwimm und Sportfreunde Bonn (SSF Bonn) during their stay in Bonn, Germany.

Michael H. Rogers
rogersmh@msn.com