MOTION:

Michigan Swimming shall establish (a) an annual awards program and (b) a Michigan Swimming Hall of Fame.

a. Annual awards may consist of, but not be limited to, a Swimmer of the Year Award (male and female), Coach of the Year Award, Developmental Coach of the Year Award, and the ConocoPhillips Outstanding Service Award.
b. A Michigan Swimming Hall of Fame shall be created, with profiles of honorees posted on the Michigan Swimming web site. Categories such as Athlete Honorees, Coach Honorees, and Honoree Contributors shall be established.
c. The General Chairperson of Michigan Swimming shall appoint an ad hoc Awards and Recognition Committee of at least five members, to include at least one athlete and at least one coach. This committee shall be charged with finalizing the list of awards, developing selection criteria and nominating procedures for each award, developing selection criteria and nominating procedures for the Michigan Swimming Hall of Fame, and suggesting an appropriate annual occasion for the presentation of awards and recognition. All such actions and suggestions shall be subject to approval by the Michigan Swimming Board of Directors.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND/TENTATIVE PLANS:

Ad Hoc Awards and Recognition Committee: We propose that MS start with an ad hoc committee appointed by the General Chairperson. At a later date, after a few years of experience, all procedures and policies should be formalized and included in the MS Rules and Procedures Manual.

Annual Awards: The proposed list of annual awards presented in the motion above is simply a tentative list. Additional awards (e.g., age group swimmer of the year, outstanding officials award, etc.) could be added, and proposed awards could be deleted, with the final list of awards to be approved by the MS Board of Directors.

Michigan Swimming Hall of Fame: Honorees should be selected on the basis of truly outstanding performances (e.g., Olympic Games) or a body of work that stands the test of time. Michigan has some truly deserving people: (a) athletes such as Olympians Clarke Scholes '52, Burwell Jones '52, Cynthia Goyette '64, and Sheila Taormina '92; (b) coaches such as Matt Mann, Gus Stager, and John Hussey; and (c) contributors such as Clarence/Betty Pinkston. The immediate concern is to determine categories, selection criteria, nomination procedures, and the number of honorees to be admitted each year. Identifying potential participants is a subsequent task; the names mentioned in this paragraph are simply examples.

Submitted by Gail Dummer, Bob Merchant, Jennifer Parks, and Mike Cutler