

Joe Gazzarato

Candidate for General Chair of Michigan Swimming, Inc.



USA Swimming (National) Positions Held

- Chief of Staff to the Athletes' Vice-President and Deputy Vice-President (September 2016 – September 2018)
- Registration/Membership Committee Athlete (September 2016 – September 2018)
- AEC Convention Task Force (January 2017 – September 2018)
- AEC Athlete Leadership Task Force (May 2017 – September 2018)
- AEC Restructuring Task Force (September 2017 – September 2018)
- Board Convention Task Force Athlete (Early 2018, project completed)

LSC Positions Held

Michigan Swimming, Inc.

- Vice-Chairman of Administration (September 2018 – present)
- Chairman of the Personnel Committee (September 2018 – present)
- Legislative Coordinator & Parliamentarian (January 2016 – present)
- Senior, Junior, and At-Large Athlete Representative (October 2015 – September 2018)
- Chairman of the Athletes' Committee (November 2015 – September 2018)
- Technical Planning Committee Non-Board Athlete (May 2013 – October 2015)

Swimming Experience

- Utica Shelby Swim Club – MI (September 2006 – July 2016)
- SWAM at the University of Michigan – College Club Swimming (September 2016 – present)

Volunteer, Professional, Educational Experience

- University of Michigan, Stephen M. Ross School of Business
 - Bachelor of Business Administration (September 2016 – May 2020)
 - Phi Beta Lambda Professional Business Fraternity, University of Michigan Chapter
- University of Michigan, College of Literature, Science and the Arts
 - Bachelor of Science in Biomolecular Science (September 2016 – May 2020)
- London School of Economics and Political Science – London, UK (January 2019 – April 2019)
- SIP Associate Intern, ZS Associates [Management Consulting] (June 2019 – August 2019)
- Union Americana de Natación, Director (January 2017 – present)
- United States Aquatic Sports, Convention Committee (June 2018 – present)
- The Pharmacy Shop, Lead Pharmacy Technician, Manager, and DMEPOS Coordinator (May 2015 – May 2019)

Personal Statement

It has been the pleasure of a lifetime to serve Michigan Swimming, USA Swimming, and other aquatics bodies in various positions over a short number of years. Last year, though, I made the commitment to return my focus to our great LSC, Michigan Swimming. I was elected as Vice-Chairman of Administration, and I was tasked by the House of Delegates and the Board of Directors with re-shaping our organization's governance structure to meet the ever-evolving needs of our membership. I have spent countless hours discussing our membership's needs with various key stakeholders, working with outside consultants to shape a strategic quad-plan as we look beyond Tokyo 2020, and structure our organization for excellence in and out of the pool. Throughout this process, I became heavily invested in seeing this succeed – so much so that I decided to run for General Chair this Fall. My motivations are simple: I want to help finish what I began and steward our new organization into early success. Success is defined differently for each of us, and I promise to work to achieve success in as many ways as possible. As General Chair, I will balance the needs and desires of our athletes, coaches, officials, parents, and community to create an organization we can all be proud of, and one in which it will again be prestigious to serve. But, as I have always said: vote your conscious. Select the candidate that you think is right for the job. We are incredibly privileged to have that ability in our sport.

Bio: Jeff Wilkins

I am currently serving as the Finance Vice-Chair of Michigan Swimming filling a vacant position and am seeking election to this position for the full two-year term. I have served on the Michigan Swimming Board of Directors as the Finance Vice-Chair from September 2008 to September 2012 as well as other positions on the board and on various committees including Governance and the Officials Committee. During that time our LSC was financially successful and continued to grow throughout my terms. I would again like to serve as Finance Vice-Chair.

Collectively, we all have a responsibility to the LSC; to make it a viable place for our athletes to continue to excel and compete in USA Swimming sanctioned events. As Finance Vice-Chair, I firmly believe we need to fund anything benefiting our athletes. I would like to see us use more funds for our athletes in the LSC by bringing elite swimmers in for clinics sponsored by the LSC.

I currently work at the University of Michigan Hospital in the Information Technology Department managing the Asset Procurement Department. I work with both unified and capital expenditures totaling several million dollars. I would like to continue using my expertise on the Board of Directors.

Candidate Bio

Michael Kavanaugh

My name is Mike Kavanaugh, I am the Head Coach of AQUA Club for the past three and a half years. I currently hold a Master's Degree in Exercise Science.

I am running for the position of Age Group Vice Chair with MI Swimming. Currently, I assist and work closely with the Senior Vice Chair, formerly, Program Ops, Shawn Kornelje. I also serve on the meet scheduling committee with MI Swimming over the past year.

Prior to coming to Michigan, I coached in many capacities for six years in Illinois Swimming serving as an assistant coach, Head Age Group Coach, and a Head Coaching. While coaching in Illinois Swimming, I served on the Age Group Committee, which was chaired by the Age Group Vice Chair, Jeff Arce. I also served on the Nominating Committee for two years, chairing the committee the second year.

My current experiences in Michigan along prior experiences in another LSC provide a good working knowledge base to serve as the Age Group Vice Chair. I believe that our Championship meet season could use a review that provides our athletes with the opportunity to grow, excel, and showcase Michigan Swimming. Our age group division needs goals, direction, and performance benchmarks as these swimmers will begin to transition into Senior Level swimmers. I feel this can be accomplished with the assistance of the Senior Vice Chair.

Thank you for your consideration.

--

Mike