

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:

HELEN KELLY

Thank you, to all of the coaches, officials, athletes, volunteers and Terry Maul, General Chairman. In Terry's first term in office I am sure he has learned more than he ever dreamed he would and he has shown great leadership. Kiki and I, in the Florida Swimming office, appreciate all of you and all you do for the sport of swimming.

A quick thank you to those Florida Swimming officials that worked the USA-S Olympic Trial meet. Congratulations to all of you for being chosen to officiate at a meet of that high level for USA Swimming.

This obviously has been an extraordinary year with both our growth and the expectations of the 2008 Olympics. Our membership is steadily increasing and I expect this post Olympic year, our FS teams will over flow with future Olympians. With the tremendous press and TV coverage that Olympian's, Ryan Lochte, Dara Torres and Michael Phleps, etc. have brought our sport, there are thousands of new prospective athletes that are coming to our sport. Thanks to Michael Phelps continuing to break so many world records, he and the others have brought our sport to the worlds spot light.

This coming year we will be dealing with many new areas and problems. Families are looking to hold down the cost of extra curricular activities and their family budgets and teams are looking for avenues to raise extra money to defray costs.

The Florida Swimming LSC is steadily growing in membership and stature in USA Swimming. Many of our FS coaches, athletes, officials and non-athlete members are also highly involved on USA-S National Committees and task forces.

With the 2008-09 short course season starting, let me take this opportunity to thank you for letting me represent your LSC for another year.