

Middle Atlantic Swimming House of Delegates

Candidate Profiles

Operations Vice-Chair

Fred Killian

I have been involved with Middle Atlantic Swimming since becoming an Official about thirty years ago. In addition to being the MA Officials Chair for many years, I have served in several positions on the MA Board over the past fifteen years. I have participated on various MA committees including Rules, Budget, Officials, Senior, Tech Planning and Travel Fund.

Safe Sport

Sean Mellinger

My name is Sean Mellinger, I've been an official for Middle Atlantic for just under 3 years. I'm on the parent committee for Conduct and Discipline with Lancaster Aquatic Club. I also serve as senior safety officer for an organization called Hogs and Heroes, a group that brings recognition and support to veterans and first responders.

My interest in serving as Safe Sport chair is to help properly educate, promote and enforce Safe Sport policy. Quite frankly, I don't think we're doing a good enough job. Over this last season, I've walked on deck, and through locker rooms, without having my credentials checked. I've argued with meet directors over this, and it seems there are some who don't even know the process, or just don't care. I've had to report a coach for misconduct, and there were no less than 5 coaches standing within 10 feet of the situation that either turned away, or left so as not to get involved. There are always coaches, officials and swimmers using their phones behind the blocks, at least during warm ups.

I feel it is our job to be neutral in all things when we officiate, just call what we see and keep it fair for all swimmers. This should also be our goal when keeping the kp

Asa a2 as aids safe. Sometimes we need to do what's right, no matter who is involved, or whose feathers it may ruffle. In conclusion, I think it comes down to education. We need to get educated ourselves, then educate all deck personnel in Mid Atlantic. I'm sure no one wants an issue to happen, and if everyone actually knows what to look for and how to report an incident, it can prevent anything from happening. Thank you for your consideration.

Kathryn M Scheuer

- Current Director of Aquatics for Upper Dublin Aquatic Club
- Previously owner/head coach of Hawk Hill Swim Team
- Appointed Member of USA Swimming Convention Education Committee 2014-current
- Middle Atlantic Safe Sport Chair 2017-current
- Middle Atlantic Zone Team Manager 2009-current
- Middle Atlantic Age Group Vice Chair 2011-2017
- Former Adult Probation/Parole Office Delaware County, 2003-2008
- Recipient of Conoco Phillips Volunteer of the Year Award from Middle Atlantic Swimming 2014
- Recipient of USA Swimming Lifetime Membership from Middle Atlantic Swimming 2017

I have spent the past year attending various Safe Sport conferences and meetings, learning what programs are working in other LSC's and what programs are needed to better serve Middle Atlantic Swimming.

Administrative Review Board – Non-Athlete

Bert Hewitt

- I have been a YMCA Official since 1998. I became a USA MA Official in 2003.
- I am a MA USA referee and I am the OTS Coordinator for the MA Officials Committee.
- I am an Officials trainer for both MA and the YMCA.
- I have been involved in of facets of running swim meets.
- I have been a member of the ARB for the last three years.

Bonnie-Ann Keagy

Bonnie-Ann Keagy is a Meet Director (also AO) and Operational Risk Director for Mid-Atlantic Swimming. Although affiliated with Plymouth Whitemarsh Aquatic Club, she has served as the Operational Risk Director for Episcopal Academy Aquatic Club for the last two years as well and volunteers as needed around the LSC. She serves on the Operational Risk Committee of MA Swimming (including the writing of the banding policy

and the new Meet Marshall program with that committee) and has most recently been appointed to the Governance Committee.

Mrs Keagy is an attorney with more than twenty years of experience in criminal defense and appeals and in family law. She serves as an arbitrator in civil cases (quasi-judicial pre-trial hearing officer) in Montgomery County, PA and is conflict counsel for appeals and post-conviction relief in Bucks County, PA. She also chairs (since 2005) the Montgomery County Rules of Criminal Court committee. She has been a lecturer for Continuing Legal Education at both the county and statewide level for the last fifteen years.

Bonnie is the mother of five kids, all but one of them now adults. She lives in Whitpain Township, PA with her husband, Mark (who is also actively involved with swimming, entries and volunteering — usually for NPAC). In her spare time, she enjoys reading, knitting, crocheting and hand making cards.

Colleen Kolm

Incumbent (Alternate)

Eden Mandrell

My name is Eden Mandrell and I would like to become a member of MidAtlantic Swimming's Administrative Review Board. I am a certified meet director and administrative official for Five Star Swim Club, and regularly assist other local teams with running their meets, including Lancaster Aquatic Club and the Lancaster Y. I have trained several other meet directors and countless Colorado and computer operators. I have three children who currently swim or have swam for Five Star Swim Club and Diplomat Swim Club. My eldest daughter swims at the collegiate level and my son will be heading off to college in the fall, where he will also continue his swimming career. My youngest daughter is 12 and has many more years of age group swimming ahead of her.

I have served on several swim team boards, including 4 years as the Vice President of BR Ryall YMCA Swim Team, a USA Swimming Club in Glen Ellyn, IL.; President of East Pete Swim Team, a Lancaster-Lebanon Summer Swim League team; member of the Warwick High School swim team board; and regularly report to the Five Star Swim Club board. During my time serving on those boards, I became very much aware of the unique challenges that swim teams face as they have reporting responsibilities to a variety of oversight authorities, including MidAtlantic Swimming and USA Swimming, as well as to

their swimmers and families. I have served on the board of a USA Swimming team that lost its coach and assistant coach, then dealt with the aftermath of the messy separation. My children began swimming at very young ages, so I have been involved at every level - from the mini meet circuit through MidAtlantic Senior Champs.

By day, I am the Director of the Career Development Office and an Adjunct Professor at Widener Commonwealth Law School in Harrisburg, PA. I also own a consulting company that focuses on lateral attorney recruiting. I am an attorney and have spent the majority of my career advising and counseling attorneys on their long-term strategic goals. Additionally, I am a certified mediator and have served on the advisory board of the Women in Law Empowerment Forum (WILEF), in addition to participating on a variety of other committees and planning boards. I am comfortable dealing with a diverse group of individuals and working through complicated situations while simultaneously contributing to creating a positive and productive environment. As a member of MidAtlantic Swimming's Administrative Review Board, I would bring my practical on-deck and behind-the-scenes club experience, coupled with my legal training and counseling experience, to help provide oversight for the MidAtlantic Swimming Board.

Rob Robitaille

I have been involved as a Coach in Middle Atlantic Swimming for the past 12 years. For 5 years, I served as an Assistant Coach for Parkland Aquatic Club (PAAC) and for the past four years I have been with Parkland Swimming Club (PSC) which I Co-Founded and sit on the executive board. Since arriving to the Lehigh Valley 12 years ago, I have also been coaching for Parkland High School Swimming and Diving. I have been the Head Coach for 8 years and spent 4 years as an assistant. During this time, I have had the privilege to coach a wide range of athletes from novice/learn-to-swim to PIAA event winners and Junior National Qualifiers. I have also had the opportunity to get to know the wonderful people that we have coaching in the MA would welcome the opportunity to serve you all in the event of an ARB situation. The Administrative Review Board position would be my first with Middle Atlantic and have been hoping to do more for the MA for some time now.

I would bring an evidence-based, scientific process from my experiences as a Secondary-Level Teacher (Earth Sciences and Oceanography for 12 years at Parkland High School), Geophysical Sciences, and Coach in the Lehigh Valley to the Administrative Review Board (ARB) position. I would investigate any issue brought to the ARB by examining facts and evidence from both sides so that a true non-biased conclusion is reached. If being in the classroom has taught me anything, it is that one must consider the total spectrum of factors governing a child's situation and view the world from multiple

perspectives to make connections, and informed decisions that allow the child to be successful. I feel that this view, and my science background could be of value to the Administrative Review Board if chosen.

Bob Rosser

I would like to thank the Middle Atlantic Swimming LSC for considering me for a seat on the Administrative Review Board. I have been involved with MA for almost 12 years serving as a stroke and turn judge, starter and for the last 5 years as a referee. Prior to that I was a swimming official with other leagues for nearly 10 years in varying capacities as well as a US Masters Swimmer. I also serve presently as a referee for the Suburban Aquatic League, Lower Bucks Swim League and formerly a PIAA certified official. I have served on one committee for MA, an ad hoc committee to revamp the officials evaluation forms which are presently in use today. My original affiliation with MA was through the now defunct team, Spirit Swimming, formerly Newtown , Bucks County where my kids swam. While with Spirit I served on, and was president of their parents association for 6 years. My association with swimming has been continuous for nearly 40 years in some manner.

In my private life I am employed by Upper Moreland Township in Montgomery County as a code enforcement officer, serving as their lead building, fire and mechanical inspector and plans examiner. I am a former deputy chief and life member of 26 years for the Northampton Township Fire Dept., also serving as chairman of their Board of Trustees for 10 years. I presently serve on two different Building Code Boards of Appeal, Northampton Township as Vice-Chair and Upper Moreland as the secretary. These boards hear appeals by aggrieved parties regarding decisions made by building officials regarding code violations, interpretations and variance requests as they relate to the enforcement of current building codes, not unlike the ARB does for Middle Atlantic Swimming. I believe I could use my private experiences to be an asset to this board in many ways. I would like to think that serving on a board such as this could help keep Middle Atlantic Swimming to remain a just and fair organization whose intention is do what is in the best interest of the athletes and their futures as they make their way through life via the pool.

Administrative Review Board – Athlete

Eric Degodny

Eric Degodny is a junior at North Penn High School and 11-year member of North Penn Aquatic Club. At age 8, he joined USA Swimming in order to compete in MA Swimming's Mini Champs, and since then, he has advanced to become a Futures qualifier in the 400 IM and 200 IM. Eric currently serves as an athlete representative on the MA Officials Committee.

Eric is a member of the North Penn High School Boys' Swimming Team, where he has earned three varsity letters and twice competed at PIAA 3A State Championships. Away from the pool, Eric has distinguished himself as both an honor student and leader. Eric is a member of the National Honor Society and French Honor Society; he also is co-President of NPHS' Political Activism Club, where he leads non-partisan political discussions and organizes field trips to Washington D.C. He is a member of the Class of 2020 "Class Cabinet" and serves on NPHS' Link Crew, an organization that runs orientation activities for the sophomore class.

In June 2018, Eric represented NPHS at the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Seminar Pennsylvania East, a three-day residential program that focused on leadership development and community service. He also was nominated for and attended the National Student Leadership Conference's "Law and Advocacy Program" at Georgetown University last summer, in which students participated in a mock trial in a courtroom. Eric hopes to pursue a career in law.

Maia McAllister

Incumbent

Age Group Chair*

Brian Elko

Incumbent

*NOTE: If the revised MAS Bylaws subject to a vote at the HOD meeting are passed, this position will no longer be eligible for election. Candidates will be under consideration for appointment to this position by the LSC General Chair.

Diversity & Inclusion Chair*

Amanda Pope

Incumbent

Carlton Taylor

I grew up in Philadelphia, and learned to swim at the age of 5 through the Germantown YMCA. After progressing through their program I began swimming competitively for the Philadelphia Department of Recreation, also known as PDR Swimming (now SAKA-MA). After high school I attended Tuskegee University. I worked at AT&T in their Global Data Sales division helping fortune 500 companies set up international projects. In 2001 I became a Financial Advisor and worked in the industry until 2013 when I left to start my own real estate investing company. My relationship with MA began 5 years ago with Easton Aquatic Club (EAST-MA) first as a parent board member, then as an assistant coach, then head coach. Through the years we were able to grow the club from 10 swimmers in 2013 to over 50 by 2016. That allowed us begin to offer needs based financial assistance and expand our summer swimming program. Unfortunately facilities became an issue, first not being allowed to use our local high school pool, and after another local pool closed to us we merged the team with Nazareth YMCA Swim Team for the 2016/17 season. The new Nazareth Easton YMCA Swim Team (NEYS-MA) participates in both USAS and National YMCA Swimming. As a coach I am a member of USA Swimming, National YMCA Swimming, the American Swim Coaches Association.

Swimming has given me a lot and in addition to coaching I'd like to give more back. As an African-American swimmer I know what it's like to walk on deck, look around at 500-1000 other swimmers, coaches, officials, parents and not feel represented. I had the benefit of swimming with Jim Ellis at PDR. My coaches, teammates, parents all reflected

experiences similar to mine. Having that allowed me to feel comfortable and develop a deep appreciation for the sport and get benefits, that extended beyond the pool into the classroom , my career, and my life. I would like to share that with more people and I believe the Diversity & Inclusion Committee can do a lot of good.

The role of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee should be to have what's happening on deck be a reflection of what's happening outside the pool, or at least working towards that. The committee has the toughest job due to the hard questions that must be asked in order to be effective, for example:

- How are we addressing/ going to address non-binary gender issues?
- What historical reasons have kept certain groups from the pool ?
- Are coaches ready to modify what they do for swimmers with cognitive challenges ?
- Are clubs ready to accept demographic changes ?
- What does success look like ?

There are two areas that D&I needs to focus on, recruiting and retention. On retentionI would like to:

- Use social media to promote existing D&I meets, or community events throughout the MA,
- Ask our members (coaches/ officials) from underrepresented groups for input on strategies/ approaches they would take to retain athletes,
- Rework the MA diversity page to provide a more inclusive message and more links to D&I camps, meets, etc.

On recruitment:

- Work closer with the Make-a-Splash program to increase visibility and attendance at events,
- Develop relationships with non-USAS summer swim leagues to promo
- Address issues, besides financial, why certain groups aren't swimming in greater numbers.

This along with continuing with ideas that have worked in the past and reaching out to other LSCs that are having success is how I believe D&I can continue to make a difference.

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Open Water Chair*

Karen Bown

I've been affiliated with Middle Atlantic Swimming since late 2014 when I began my Meet Director/Administrative Official (MD/AO) Training. Since that time, I have continued my MD/AO status as well as becoming an Operational Risk Director and Stroke & Turn Official. Over the last several years I have run numerous meets for ECCC, PVA, SEA, VINY and BGH; not to mention helping three swim leagues, Greater South Jersey Swim League (GSJSL), South Jersey Swim League (SJSL), and Streamline Summer Swim League (SSSL). I've also volunteered at countless MA meets hosted by FCA, GPAC, STRM, PVA, TWAC, and many MAS Championship meets; this does not include the volunteering I have done within the NJ LSC. In 2014, I became the Team Manager for Greenheads Swimming, where I have been able to help build the USA Swimming Athlete memberships and a group of USA Swimming officials. Within the GSJSL and the SSSL, I serve as the Meet Director for all MA Approved meets as well as help each team in preparing/running their meets when requested. In the summer of 2018 I became a trustee and the treasurer for Green Whales Inc, a NJ Non-Profit 501c3. Over the past several years, I've also help train and mentor numerous individuals as they become Middle Atlantic Meet Directors, Administrative Officials, Stroke & Turn Officials, and Operational Risk Directors.

Over the last few years, I have been a part of the following Open Water events in one capacity or another (such as but not limited to planning, safety, publicity, and MD/AO/ORD): Bridge-to-Bridge, Brigantine Open Water Swim, Brigantine Elks Swim, Pageant Swim, Escape the Cape, and the Jim Whelan Open Water Festival which includes the Around the Island Marathon Swim. With all the open water within Southern NJ I am interested in seeing many of these events flourish and come back to being sanctioned events within Middle Atlantic Swimming and to encourage more teams throughout the LSC to have open water sanctioned events.

If elected the Middle Atlantic Open Water Chair, I would like to create/setup the following:
(1) A five to ten person committee with representatives from numerous teams which would include the required 20% athlete representation. I would prefer these individuals be from various backgrounds such as coaches, officials, safety personnel, and open

water athletes. (2) Develop a set of guidelines to assist in the planning and execution of a MA Sanctioned OW Event. (3) Develop a set of guidelines to assist the host team and Meet Director in producing the proper Meet Announcement for Open Water events. (4) Convening the committee to review all MA OW Sanction Applications. (5) Develop an Open Water Officials base within the LSC.

Chris Neuman

My name is Chris Neuman and I am currently an official with the Egg Harbor Twp Seahawks. I became involved with USA swimming when my children started to swim in 2013 with the Ocean City C-Cerpants. This has evolved into becoming an Open Water Judge and Stroke & Turn Judge in 2016 and certified coach in 2017. I have been an avid open water swimmer for the past two decades competing in numerous open water swims from a half mile to 5K along the New Jersey shore. I believe that open water swimming allows athletes of all ages and abilities to enjoy a different style of swimming while challenging themselves each and every time they swim.

Having participated in and observed how open water events run, naturally led me into open water swim coaching (masters) and the assisting running of open water events. I have assisted with running the Independence Day Swim (Ocean City C-Cerpants 2014, 2015) in the area of safety. During the summer of 2016, I was an official (apprentice) for Eastern Zone Open Water Championship in Atlantic City. I have also officiated for the Brigantine Open Water Swims (non-sanctioned) in 2016 and 2018. During the summer of 2018, I assisted with the Atlantic City Pageant Swim (hosted by the EHT Seahawks), which is the longest running open water swim in the nation, as the Operations Officer. May 2019, I will be attending Open Water Nationals in Miami Florida as an Open Water Judge representing Middle Atlantic and working on my Open Water Referee.

I have applied for the Middle Atlantic Open Water Chair position with a vision of expanding opportunities for MA swimmers in safe sanctioned open water events. This would include assisting clubs and athletes with information about open water swimming while promoting more sanctioned events in MA. A goal of recruiting more non-athlete participation (Officials and volunteers) is just as important in this vision. Long term, I believe that MA would benefit from a Middle Atlantic Open Water Championship.

Bob Schailey

I have many years of experience over a lifetime that had prepared me for the current position of OW Chairman. Through those leadership roles, let me show what OW has become in the MA LSC with a few key highlights. In 2010, I started as an USAS OW official and trained at the National training program that year. Since then I have officiated at 9 National events. When I was entrusted with the role of OW Chair for MA, there were no sanctioned events, nor were there any officials. I was Chair of nothing. What an honor.

At the time, there were no LSC OW training programs and we needed OW officials. Since then, we have held 4 training sessions for new officials plus an OW swim clinic. We had our first ever Eastern OW Zone event for the MA LSC at Penn State in 2011. We went on to have 3 more Zone events since then -- 2 Bay events and 1 Ocean event. The first locally sanctioned event was the popular Bridge to Bridge Bay Swim in Atlantic City in 2012.

Because of the quality of our events, several of our recommendations were adopted by USAS. We had submitted two recommendations -- Separate the Zone events from the pool Zone events, and secondly, give the top Zone winners an automatic place in the National OW Championship. Our feeling was that pool times should not be the only qualification for moving up to the National OW level. The other effect this would have, was a more positive participation in the attendance to the four Zone events and the National Championships which has proven positive. Attendance soared!

We have reached out and assisted the NJ LSC in setting up their first sanctioned Ocean swim and trained officials to carry on in the future.

Four years ago, a sub committee for OW saved the Atlantic City Pageant Ocean Swim which was publicly announced that it would no longer be held. Our committee won the bid and we were able to save this 89 year old Open Water swim which is the oldest event in the United States.

Our objective is simple and clear -- Encourage and develop new OW sanctioned events. Provide technical advice and support to clubs that host and run OW events. And above all, set high standards for safe events.

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Operational Risk Chair*

David Burnette

I am currently the Operational Risk Chair for Middle Atlantic and have been in this role for the last 2 1/2 years. Prior to being nominated as the Chair I served on the Operational Risk Committee as a committee member. I have been associated with Middle Atlantic Swimming for the last 15 years by having 3 kids who have swam in the LSC. My two older kids are in college (Brandon is a Junior at Georgia Tech and Colin is a Freshman and swims at Roanoke College), My daughter, Abby, is a Sophomore in high school and is a member of Blue Eagle Swim Team (BLUE). I am currently a certified AO, Meet Director and Operational Risk Director. As committee chair for the Operational Risk Committee I played a key role in the roll out the banding policy to control deck access at meets to unauthorized people and am currently involved with the committee in creating a training program for Meet Marshals. Outside of my role with MA Swimming, I have served in a board position for our club team and currently am the President of the Freedom High School Swimming and Diving team and on the board for Freedom High School Patriot Club. I am seeking reelection for the Operational Risk Chair position because I feel there is a growing need for education, training and programs geared at improving the awareness and processes related to our athletes safety. While I believe we have made great strides over the last few years I think there is a lot that can still be done and I am up for the challenge.

Nancy Curtis

Tide Water Aquatic Club (TWAC)
Head Coach /Owner

BS West Chester University
MA Immaculata University
Rowan College Adjunct Professor: STEM
Department

Coaching Experience

2010-present Tide Water Aquatics Club
1996-2013 Jersey Wahoos Swim Club
1984-1996 Haddonwood Swim Team

Middle Atlantic Swimming

Operation Risk Director TWAC: present
Board: 1990's Adaptive Chair
All Star Zone coach 1989-1993 2010-2011

Certified American Red Cross Instructor 1983-present
Life Guard Instructor; CPR Instructor; First Aid Instructor

Outside Board Experience: Present: Tide Water Adaptive Aquatics Center
Past: Too many too to list...

I have been an active member of Middle Atlantic swimming since the 1980's. I have seen the LSC grow in size over the past 30 years. I have a vested interest in the LSC and would like to contribute to the continued success of the Middle Atlantic LSC.

I have been involved in the safety of others since I became a American Red Cross instructor in 1983. When our swim club became involved in hosting swim meets, it was a natural fit for me to become the Safety Director, and now the Operational Risk Director. I would be honored to be the Operation Risk Chair of Middle Atlantic to insure all our swimmers of the LSC have a safe environment to compete in.

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Tech Planning Chair*

Doug Cornish

In 2013, the only Championship meets offered by MA were Junior Olympics and Senior Champs. Between those meets we served only 1,555 non-unique swimmers in the month of March. . Under my leadership, the Tech Planning Committee has collaborated with the Age Group Chair, Senior Chair, and Director of Competition to usher in a new era of swimming in Middle Atlantic. Together, many people have worked to develop our champs series into a system that serves over 6,000 non-unique swimmers in the month of March. We found out this March that the interest in and commitment to our Champs Series is still growing within the teams of MA. I believe I am the person best equipped to lead the collaborative efforts required to manage and improve upon both our regular season meet schedule as well as our Champs Series. Thank you for your support.

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