

Peer-to-Peer Spring Social Hour

All USMS volunteers are invited to join us for one of our three Spring Social Hours, which are May 8, 9, and 18. Socialize with your peers, exchange ideas, and stay up to date with the latest volunteer happenings within USMS. These quarterly social hours are the perfect opportunity to connect and network in a relaxed and friendly environment. We will also discuss the ongoing peer-to-peer program and how you can be connected to a group a fellow volunteers to network with. We hope to see you there!

LMSC Development Committee

Peer-to-Peer Spring Social Hour

for USMS Volunteers

Welcome!

We will start a couple minutes after the hour to allow folks time to connect

Quarterly Zoom “Social Hour” meetings for Volunteers

Multiple time/date options each quarter with same content for schedule flexibility to allow volunteers to attend ‘live’

February

Kick-off to year, after allowing time for new volunteers to get settled in new roles

May

After Spring Nationals

September

2 weeks after Annual Meeting, 4 weeks before Relay

December

Wrap-Up to year

Agenda

- **Welcome Peers! (5 minutes)**
- **Questions of the Quarter: Peer Introductions (30 minutes)**
- **2025 Volunteer Relay: preview & presentation (15 minutes)**
- **Volunteer Q & A (10 minutes)**
 - This is your opportunity to engage and seek information, support, and/or mentorship.

USMS Volunteer “Peer-to-Peer” Program

Our Volunteer Peer-to-Peer program serves as a hub for resources and networking for all USMS volunteers, helping them stay informed, connected, and supported.

Our Volunteer Peer-to-Peer program is overseen by the LMSC Development Committee “Communication” Team, made up of **Jacky Merianos** (North Texas), **Tom Moore** (Minnesota), **Ann Marshfield** (Lake Erie), and **Lina Bot** (Florida Gold Coast).

Peer-to-Peer Initiatives

The LMSC Development Communications team supports our volunteers through the following programs and platforms:

- Forums for each role in USMS Community section of website
- Peer groups on WhatsApp
- Quarterly zoom Social Hours

Questions of the Quarter: Peer Introductions

- You will be randomly assigned to a breakout room
- The breakout room will automatically shut down after 8 minutes and you will be returned to the main meeting

Question #1

When did you join USMS and why did you join?

Questions of the Quarter: Peer Introductions

- You will be randomly assigned to a breakout room
- The breakout room will automatically shut down after 8 minutes and you will be returned to the main meeting

Question #2

Tell us about the best vacation you've ever taken!

Questions of the Quarter: Peer Introductions

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Question #3

What is your Jukebox jam?

You step into a social gathering and spot a jukebox—what's the first song you'd queue up?



Relay 2025
“Coach Support and Club Development”

Tom Moore

(start recording)





Relay 2025
“Coach Support and Club Development”

Tom Moore

What topics will be included and who should attend?

(This portion of the meeting will be recorded to be shared with those that could not attend)



Relay 2025

“Coach Support and Club Development”

Friday October 24 through Sunday October 26, 2025 Kansas City Airport Marriott

<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/lmsc-leadership-summit/relay-2025>

We're bringing together LMSC volunteers, club leaders, and coaches to share best practices, tackle common challenges, and get practical tools to build stronger clubs, programs, and coaches. It's a hands-on weekend with other volunteers, coaches, and club leaders like yourself. You'll leave with ideas, tools, and real strategies that work.

Topics we'll cover:

- Mentoring and training local coaches
- Club finances, payroll, and sponsorships
- Marketing your team and using USMS programs
- Expanding pool time and growing your club
- Handling varied ability levels in workouts
- Creating a more inclusive, loyal swim community

Relay 2025

“Coach Support and Club Development”

Volunteer Relay Format

The “Relay” format involves 3 components:

1. An in-person meeting to foster camaraderie with an interactive format meant to engage, equip and energize volunteers,
2. A rotating focus (this year is “Coach Support and Club Development”), and
3. An emphasis on understanding and supporting the priorities of USMS.

Definition of “Coach Support and Club Development”

The most important factor in the experience of a USMS member is often the quality of the coach on deck and the schedule options of the workouts that the member attends.

- Supporting Coaches through education and career path (***but Relay is not a “coaches clinic”!***)
 - Providing coaches with training and mentorship
 - Helping coaches with financial planning and career planning
- Supporting Clubs with team administration, scheduling and financial planning
- Developing Clubs by helping Owners to start, maintain or grow their club or workout groups
 - Provide resources and support to allow clubs to thrive in as many pools with as many workout time options as possible

Relay 2025

“Coach Support and Club Development”

Who should come:

- LMSC volunteers who support coaches or clubs
- Coaches involved in team direction
- Club owners and team admins
- New or returning volunteers ready to contribute

Start recruiting potential attendees now, so they can schedule Relay 2025 on their calendar!

Attendees at previous Relay meetings love the format:

Volunteers enjoy getting together for an in-person meeting to talk ideas and make new relationships, and people really appreciate the content at Relay and the opportunity to interact with other attendees. Year over year, over 90% of Relay attendees rate the meeting as “Excellent” or “Very Good”

Relay 2025

“Coach Support and Club Development”

We continue to make changes to improve Relay, based on attendee feedback:

- Added optional Friday afternoon session so folks that arrive early have an organized activity but folks who can't arrive until Friday night don't miss any official content.
- People loved interacting with the BOD members and national committee members but did not like the structure (or lack thereof) of the 'volunteer roles meet-up' session so we are adding an informal meeting 'booth' to provide this interaction in a different way.
- Updated planning process and communication to presenters to minimize duplication of information between sessions since attendees strongly disliked duplicative sessions
- People asked for more FUN; in 2023 we started the costume contest, in 2024 we added Karaoke to Saturday night and in 2025 we will add a Game night / Trivia night to Friday.
- Expanded opportunities for national committees and staff to present status of initiatives to provide context to attendees
- Volunteers value interacting with other volunteers, so we have expanded the amount of small-group 'breakout' discussions within each session where it is appropriate.

Relay 2025

“Coach Support and Club Development”

To-Do List:

- Mark your calendar for Relay 2025
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 - <https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/lmsc-leadership-summit/relay-2025>
- Think about who your LMSC will send, and start recruiting potential attendees now so they have time to plan
- Help us identify presenters - someone who is a subject matter expert, and/or someone who is great presenter. Send suggestions to tom.moore.mn@gmail.com



Relay 2025

Questions & Answers

Any questions for Tom?



Relay 2025

(End Recording)



OPEN FORUM

Volunteer Questions & Answers

Don't be afraid. Ask away.
(If you're thinking it, someone else probably is too!)

Resources

- 2025 BOD Office Hours – 2025 Plans & Initiatives
[Board Office Hours – 2025 plans and initiatives - Zoom](#)
- Forums for USMS Volunteer Discussions
<https://community.usms.org/volunteers/lmsc-officers-administration/>
- WhatsApp Community for USMS Volunteers
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/J6ajobq8Bn44frUbaay0hd>
- USMS Peer-to-Peer Calls and Networking Opportunities
<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/peer-to-peer-calls>
- USMS LMSC Standards webpage
<https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/lmscs/lmsc-standards>



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