

General Chair – Stacy Smith (Head Coach and Owner CCAT)
Current SCS Role: General Chair

As a head coach and team owner for over forty years in Southern California, I have served in many positions within the Coastal Geographic Committee, on the SCS Board of Directors, and at the National level (Diversity, Age Group, Operational Risk) learning and gaining invaluable experience and knowledge.

As the incumbent General Chair, a few of my accomplishments include:

- Navigated the LSC through the pandemic recovery, as SCS has become the largest LSC in the county again.
- In conjunction with the BoD and the Finance Committee leadership, I assisted with
- growing our financial investments.
- Guided our LSC to work within an Operating Annual Budget, and plan for each Quad
- without pulling out of our reserve fund.
- Meet entry fees rates have been updated to encourage teams to host meets, under
- growing facility costs.
- Introduced an Outreach Fund and Outreach meet entry fee program to assist families in need, and subsidize Meet Hosts for entry loss from Outreach discount.

My Top Goals for another term as General Chair include:

- Rebuild our Athlete Committee to become active and engaged in the Geo Committees, SCS Board and at the National Level.
- Have Quarterly meetings with the Chairs of all Geo Committees to engage their ideas to move forward as an LSC.
- Guide the LSC into the next quadrennium to prepare for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, and how we as an LSC can benefit from the proximity of this.

General Chair – Keith Moore (Senior Coach Fullerton Aquatics)
No Current SCS Board Role

I am seeking the office of general chairman for Southern California Swimming. I bring a lifetime of experience and knowledge that I can apply to the leadership of Southern California swimming below is a list of some highlights of my career.

- I am currently the Senior coach at Fullerton Aquatics Sports team since 2021. I primarily coach swimmers from the ages 13 to 18 years of age.
- I have spent two stints at Bakersfield Swim Club 2002-2010 and 2015 to 2021. Some highlights include two National Champions at the 2004 National Championships at Stanford (Danielle Townsend 200 IM, and Joe Whittington 18 & U 50 free). Also, Gabe Woodward to 2 medals in the 2007 Pan American Games, and to an 8th place finish in the 2008 USA Olympic Trials in the 100 M freestyle.
- In the 1980's and 90's I as an assistant coach at the University of Nebraska. I had the great opportunity to coach over 30 athletes to NCAA All-American Status comminating to an NCAA Champion in the 100 Butterfly (Adam Pine) in 2000. International highlights include in the 2000 Olympic games in Sydney, Adam Pine Gold in the 4 x 100-meter Free Relay, Therese Ashammar to a silver in the 100-meter free and a silver in the 50 meter Free.
- I spent eight years as an athlete culminating with Collegiate All-American Awards in Swimming and Water Polo in the late 70's early 80's and accepting a scholarship to swim at the University of Nebraska in 1982.
- I have just spent the last four years as the Western Zone Director (Coach), and Co-Char of the Zone Directors Council. The Zone Directors Council is a USA Swimming Committee that represents the "Boots on the Ground" voice to the USA Swimming Board of Directors. I have served in elected roles in Central California, Midwestern and Missouri Valley LSC's.

My Goals – Action Plans:

1. Officials – develop a working plan along with the official's leadership to recruit, educate, train and retain new officials every year. If every club would bring in one new official each year SCS could double or triple the number of officials on the pool decks of SCS in a very short period of time.
2. Communication – Being the largest LSC in United States Swimming – effective communication and transparency is a must. To develop a much-needed new website will require an overhaul along with a platform where communication can be delivered and received for each and all designated groups within the LSC.
3. Input from Coaches – A goal is to listen to the coaches. I will have the Coaches Chair to have quarterly coaches' meetings where all coaches are invited. These meetings will be in place to hear all concerns and happenings from the valuable coaching community. I want to listen.

Planning Vice Chair – Mohammad Khadembashi (Head Coach Team Santa Monica)
Current SCS Role: Senior Chair

Since joining TSM, I have been leading swimmers to competitive rankings in Southern California, USA, and internationally. I have coached swimmers to Junior National, National, Olympic Trials, Junior Pan Pacific Championships, World Junior Championships, World Championships, and Olympic Games.

- USA National Team Coach 2018-2024 (Olympic Coach, USA World Champs Coach, USA World Cup Coach)
- Developed swimmers to multiple National Junior, National, World Juniors, World Champs, and Olympic Teams.
- As Head Coach, and in several other positions within USA Swimming and Southern California Swimming, have had successful Quad Plans which included events, training, competition, and camps.
- Held various SCS Board of Directors and Pacific Committee positions since 2017 to help our LSC be better and perform better.
- Have worked and continue to work with USA Swimming on different task forces since 2019.

Goals for 2025-2026

- Immediately schedule a meeting with the Age Group, Senior Chair, Coach Rep, and SCS Executive Director to work on the quad plan (2028 --> 2027 --> 2026 --> 2025).
- Work with the Age Group and Senior Chairs to identify the areas of strength and improvement of the last 8-12 years of our calendar.
- Involve all Planning Chairs from all Geo Committees and coaches with experience, and success in planning, in the planning process for the next 4 years.

Planning Vice Chair – Rick Shipherd (Head Coach LaMirada Armada)
Current SCS Role: Coach Representative

I have been active as a leader in USA Swimming and Southern California Swimming since its inception in 1978. During this time, I have contributed to the success of hundreds of athletes. Those athletes have achieved as Olympians, doctors, lawyers and teachers. They have succeeded as National team members and as citizens and parents. My qualifications are:

- Long and diverse involvement in USA Swimming, Southern California Swimming and the coaching community has allowed me to contribute in many ways to the betterment of the athletes, families, coaches and volunteers in our sport.
- Contributions with USA Swimming:
 - Chairman USA Swimming Club Development Committee 2 years.
 - Member of USA Swimming Senior Development Committee 6 years.
 - Member of OIO for four terms
 - Member of four USA Swimming National team staffs
- Contributions with American Swimming Coaches Association:
 - ASCA Board of Directors for 7 years.
 - Chair Coaches' mentor program for two years.
- Contributions with Southern California Swimming
 - Board member for 26 years.
 - SCS Senior Chair, three terms.
 - SCS Program Chair, two terms.
 - SCS Coaches' Rep, three terms.

Southern California Swimming is in need of a course correction. Navigating the new realities of our sport will take experienced leadership. I will pursue three major objectives as Planning Vice Chair:

- Rebuilding a philosophy of centralized planning linked to a legislated SCS structure for controlling the calendar and the progression of competition.
 - Leading the redesign of our budget guidelines for club support and judicious financial spending to support new SCS programming.
 - Design a Recognition Program for our Senior Swimmers as a model to inspire our age group swimmers. This would be in conjunction with a Senior All-Star program and an SCS Senior Championship
 - Introducing a new innovative competition model designed around a season of short course meter competition to match the growing importance of short course meter competition in our sport.
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Senior Vice Chair – Ron Aitken (Head Coach Sandpipers)
No Current SCS Board Role

I am honored to announce my candidacy for Senior Vice Chair of Southern California Swimming (SCS). Born and raised in Southern California, I've been immersed in California Swimming since the age of six.

- Over 30 years of coaching experience, including Head Coach for the Open Water Paris Team, coaching Olympic swimmers.
- Long-Standing experience in both age group and senior level swimming gives me a unique perspective on the needs of our community.
- Helped athletes at all levels reach their full potential, from the entry-level swimmer to those competing on the international stage.

As Senior Vice Chair, I would bring my experience and passion to continue the development of our athletes, with a particular focus on fostering a pathway from age group swimming to senior-level excellence. My goals for this role would include:

- Remembering the mission and vision of SCS: Staying aligned with our core values, ensuring that every decision is made with the long-term success of our athletes and programs in mind.
- Educating Senior and Age Group Coaches: Providing tools and resources to enhance understanding of senior-level swimming, promoting a shared vision for athlete development across all age groups.
- Development of Entry Levels into Senior Swimming: Creating a clear pathway that helps our athletes' transition smoothly from age group swimming to senior competition, ensuring they are properly prepared to succeed at the next level.
- Strategic Planning for Peak Performances: Implementing programs and strategies that will help our athletes reach their highest potential, with an emphasis on supporting both individual and team success at all levels of senior swimming.

Senior Vice Chair – Andrew Nguyen (Head Coach Rose Bowl Aquatics)
No Current SCS Board Role

I have coached Senior athletes for more than 10 years in my 15 years of coaching.

- I've had the opportunity to learn from some of the best Senior-level coaches and have had the opportunity to lead high-level club programs.
- I have experience with developing the Age Group athlete to Senior swimming to sustained performance and success into their later years in their careers.

My goals If elected as Senior Chair:

- Help reestablish Southern California Swimming's identity as a top-performing LSC in USA Swimming.
- In order to do so, we must provide opportunities to all SCS athletes to experience a competitive environment.
- This will require a collaborative effort across our LSC and SCS will host meets, clinics, and camps that encourage top competition with beneficial takeaways for our athletes. I envision SCS being a big presence in this quad leading into LA28.

Open Water Chair - Alex Moothart, (Coach Rose Bowl Aquatics)
Current SCS Role: Open Water Chair

I have been a coach for over 11 years and am the current Open Water Chair.

- Coached 5 years of open water swimming, learning much about the sport and how it is different from the pool swimming we all know and love.
- Helped supervise and organize local races to the Los Angeles area.
- Helped lead clinics and introduced many people to open water swimming.

If elected to the Open Water Chair,

- I would like to host 2 USA Swimming sanctioned open water races at LA28 Long Beach Marine Stadium
- Propose to use the LA28 Long Beach Marine Stadium venue for more elite races (i.e. Open Water Juniors.)
- Open water swimming is something I think SCS can really tap into and help grow into something more and I would be thrilled to be part of it.

Secretary - Forest Riek (Coach and President Rattler Swim Club)
No Current SCS Board Role

I have been involved with swimming as a parent, official and a coach going back to 2005.

- President of Rattler Swim Club for the past 9 years prior was a board member for 7 years.
- Worked professionally with many boards across various sales verticals as a senior sales engineer for GTE/Verizon.
- Served as secretary to the Parent Board for LAUSD for six years.
- An administrative official and CTS Operator/Trainer for over 10 years.
- I am familiar with all Microsoft Office products and Zoom.

If elected, I see this role as a support role for the SCS. I would like to do the following in my first year:

1. Provide timely and accurate meeting minutes
2. Get committee chairs to submit their reports on time so we can provide the board more notice to review.

Treasurer – Ron Ross (Unattached)
Current SCS Role: Treasurer

My qualifications:

- Owned my own business for 30+ years.
- Plenty of knowledge of P&L and Balance sheets with my own business.
- I work with a CPA and tax accountant regularly and lots of experience with budgeting.
- 10 +years of doing the current job.
- I've been the LSC Chair, Section Chair and club president.

If elected, my goals:

- Continue to provide accurate reports for each board meeting
- Provide budgets prior to the June meeting.