

# NEWS *from* WORLD PROFESSIONAL MARATHON SWIMMING FEDERATION, INC.



JOE GROSSMAN  
SECRETARY  
10102 Pierce Drive  
Silver Spring, Md. 20901, U.S.A.

BULLETIN #17 \* Spring, 1971

There have been complaints by members of the WPMSF who have missed annual meetings during the past several years that the small number of members who do attend the meetings decide matters which affect the entire membership. On February 1, 1971, there were 135 members; yet at the last meeting in Hamilton, only 26 voting members were present. Recognizing that it is unfair to permit 19% of the membership to make decisions for the entire organization, a mail ballot is being tried this year. Two matters are presented for consideration. Ballots must be returned to the Secretary for tabulation. All ballots received will be displayed at the next annual meeting for anyone who would like to check them. The constitution permits secret balloting, so you need not sign your ballot.

Vote on these two matters on the enclosed ballot:

I. A constitutional amendment has been proposed (by the Secretary) to establish a Marathon Swimming Foundation which would be responsible for research into the history of marathon swimming and for using the information thus obtained to gain publicity for our sport (through books, articles, news releases, etc.). As one function of the Foundation, a Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame would be established to honor outstanding marathon swimmers of past, present and future years. The Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame will be conducted in cooperation with the International Swimming Hall of Fame in Florida. Selections of honorees would be made by a committee of persons interested in and familiar with the sport of marathon swimming and including representatives of (1) the WPMSF, (2) The Hall of Fame in Florida and (3) the sports news media. The creation of a separate Foundation to conduct this activity is considered advisable so that the publicity work will not be hampered by association with the term "Professional" in the WPMSF name, since both amateur and pro swimmers will be involved. Since a constitutional amendment requires a two-thirds vote to pass, it will be considered approved unless there are 46 votes AGAINST the proposal. (A "Yes" vote will mean you want a Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame; a "No" vote will mean you do not want one.)

II. Election of 1972 officers: No slate has been proposed. Simply write the name of the WPMSF member you wish to have as (1) President, (2) Vice President and (3) Secretary-Treasurer on the ballot. Also, votes may be cast for members to serve on the International Board of Governors, on which every country with swimmers or races is represented. The officers are automatically members of this Board. The member who receives the most votes for each office will be considered elected. Ties for President and Secretary-Treasurer will require new balloting. Ties for Vice President will result in more than one Vice President. Those elected will begin their terms January 1, 1972. Ballots must be received by the Secretary-Treasurer by March 10, 1971, to be counted.

OFFICIAL BALLOT OF THE WORLD PROFESSIONAL MARATHON SWIMMING FEDERATION

- I. Constitutional amendment to create a Marathon Swimming Foundation which would conduct a Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame.

Check, circle or otherwise mark either "Yes" or "No" below:

YES (I do want to have a Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame.)

NO (I don't want a Marathon Swimming Hall of Fame.)

- II. Election of officers for calendar year 1972.

Insert the name of any voting WPMSF member on the black space of the office you wish him or her to have:

For President (Vote for 1) \_\_\_\_\_

For Vice President (Vote for 1) \_\_\_\_\_

For Secretary-Treasurer (Vote for 1) \_\_\_\_\_

For Board of Governors (Vote for only one person from each country in which the WPMSF has members or in which races are held):

Mail this ballot BEFORE MARCH 10, 1971, TO:

Joe Grossman, Secretary  
W. P. M. S. F.  
10295 Windstream Drive  
Columbia, Md. 21043, U.S.A.