

USMS Committee Reports & Agendas

Championship

Committee Members

Jeff Roddin, Chair; Sandi Rousseau, Vice Chair

Tyler Blessing, Mark Braun, Ken Brisbin, Debbie Cavanaugh, Kim Crouch, Barry Fasbender, Jack Groselle, Kris Houchens, Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Patty Nardozzi, Ed Saltzman, Robin Segnitz, Erin Shields, Jeff Strahota, Lisa Watson.

Ex-Officio: Tom Boak, Jim Clemmons, Michael Heather, Jane Moore, Chris Stevenson.

Introduction

Our mission is to serve in an advisory capacity to national championship hosts and make recommendations and decisions that enhance the quality of championship meets for all registered U.S. Masters Swimming members; to actively solicit and receive bid proposals, review bids and select the sites for national championship meets; and support marketing opportunities for U.S. Masters Swimming Corporate Partners.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

Permitted swimmers to enter both distance events at Spring Nationals (20% of swimmers entering either the 1000 or the 1650 entered both). Of note, 21% of swimmers in the meet entered an event on Thursday – the exact same percentage as Mesa. Therefore the option to enter both events did not necessarily attract more distance swimmers but presumably pleased returning swimmers who wanted to swim both.

1. Permitted swimmers to enter both distance events at Spring Nationals (20% of swimmers entering either the 1000 or the 1650 entered both). Of note, 21% of swimmers in the meet entered an event on Thursday – the exact same percentage as Mesa. Therefore the option to enter both events did not necessarily attract more distance swimmers but presumably pleased returning swimmers who wanted to swim both.

2. Established Local and Regional Club classifications for 2012 USMS clubs

3. Updated sample budget and developed a generic template for bidders

4. Updated Liaison Guidelines and Site Visit checklist

5. Updated Coaches hospitality policy to clarify On-deck coaches only receive complimentary hospitality on the day(s) they work

6. Changed policy to shift financial responsibility for vendor social event tickets from the host to USMS

7. Worked with Sports Medicine and Science committee to offer health screenings and informational materials at Nationals instead of lectures that were often poorly attended. The health screenings have been much more popular.

8. Procedure to allow swimmers to change their seed times after they've entered Nationals but prior to the entry deadline was tabled until at least next year. USMS will have to offer this feature for 2013 Pan Am's so we will observe its implementation to gather ideas.

9. Signed contracts with 2013 hosts and assigned liaisons (Debbie Cavanaugh and Kim Crouch for Spring Nationals and Barry Fasbender and Erin Shields for Summer Nationals)

10. Approved Order of Events for 2013 Summer Nationals (five day meet format warranted a special Order of Events)

11. Determined the Split Request procedure shall be determined on a case by case basis with Automatic Splits being an "opt in" vs the default option (the default option is for swimmers to fill out individual split request forms). However, the overwhelming majority of Nationals' hosts

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will likely use the Automatic Split option but this way the host is made aware of the specific requirements to offer this feature.

12. Submitted eight Rules proposals to Part I of the rulebook. Of note, we propose to eliminate the two-to-a-lane seeding option and to remove the requirement to publish the Nationals entry form in SWIMMER.

Action Items

1. Update Championship Committee Policy document
2. Update Meet Director's Guide for 2013 hosts
3. Evaluate Coaches hospitality policy
4. Evaluate Nationals refund policy
5. Calculate NQTs for 2013 Nationals
6. Submit nominations(s) for the RAM National Championship Award

Championship Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 – Thursday September 13th 2:30pm -3:45pm – Meadowbrook

1. Approve Minutes from last meeting
2. Review/discuss 2012 Nationals:
 - A. Greensboro (Spring)
 - B. Omaha (Summer)
3. Review/discuss status and planning and approve awards for 2013 Nationals:
 - A. Indy (Spring)
 - B. Mission Viejo (Summer)
4. Review/discuss proposed Legislation/Rules changes that affect Championship Committee (Articles 103/104)
5. NQT's

Meeting #2 – Saturday September 15th 8:45am -9:45am – Meadowbrook

1. 2014 Championship Bids
2. Nationals procedures/activities:
 - A. Lane Marshals
 - B. Coaches hospitality
 - C. Officials (coverage, contractual obligations to Host, reimbursement policy)
 - D. Nationals Refund Policy
 - E. Nationals Point of Contact: meet director vs USMS
 - F. Check-in Deadlines (relays, deck seeded events)
 - G. Other (service dogs, clear deck)
3. Goals/Tasks for 2013

Coaches

Committee Members

Scott Bay, Chair; Stu Kahn, Vice Chair

Chris Campbell, Michael Collins, Erik Cozadd, Kristin Gary, Doug Hayden, Emmett Hines, Jacki Hirsty, Heather Howland, Tom Mester, Mark Moore, Ahelee Sue Osborn, Stan Steck, Dennis Tesch, Charlie Tupitza

Ex-Officio: Jody Smith, VP Community Services

Introduction

The coaches committee has developed a number of subcommittees and task forces to both identify and carry out the priorities of the Coaches committee. The following briefs are a synopsis of what has been accomplished so far as well as some priorities for the future.

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Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

USMS CERTIFICATION CLINICS SUBCOMMITTEE- Led by **Stu Khan, Emmett Hines** and **Scott Bay** has worked collaboratively with Club and Coach Services to revise and improve the USMS levels 1 and 2 curriculum. In addition to this project, we have worked together to develop the Level 3 curriculum and Level 4 and 5 requirements all of which will be rolled out at convention. We will have delivered the curriculum 12 times from in locations from California to New England by the start of Convention. In addition, there will be at least 3 more certifications opportunities to close out 2012 with several others pending as well as a reservations being made for 2013. In each presentation, the reviews have been overwhelmingly positive and the program have generated revenue rather than being an expense. In 2012 , 246 coaches have been through the curriculum as of June 2, 2012.

ONLINE COACHING SUBCOMMITTEE- Led by **Stu Kahn**, this committee has selected 7 online coaches to provide workouts via the USMS forum to members. We believe that this will serve a large portion of the USMS population and drive more self coached and multisport athletes to the website and ultimately towards a lasting membership with USMS. All of the coaches selected for this task have been both timely and responsive in this effort. We will be inviting back the coach with the most hits as well as inviting the others to apply again to be renewed. We will also be aggressively soliciting applications for 2013 Online Coaching.

INTERNATIONAL COACHING TASK FORCE- Led by **Heather Howland**, has chosen **Frank Marchinkowski** to be the Head Coach for our efforts in 2012 FINA Worlds Masters Championships in Riccione . Assistant Coaches were chosen by the Task Force Additionally the liaison for this event Kristin Gary has been on the Ground in Riccione already and done a survey of logistical concerns that our swimmers would like to have information about. She is currently preparing her report and will be available prior to convention.

THE LMSC COACHES CHAIR SUBCOMMITTEE- Led by **Ahelee Sue Osborne** assisted by **Chris Campbell** has had a dual function. First of all dissemination of information to Coaches Chairs in their LMSCs and also Identifying and supporting those chairs with information and educational opportunities. Through these efforts we have been able to identify and communicate with all but 6 LMSC Coaches Chairs. The reason for this is that they have either not responded or do not have an identified Coaches Chair. In the latter part of the year this subcommittee has been making a very proactive effort to have a member of the subcommittee personally reach out to each coaches chair to offer assistance, answer questions and take suggestions. This is an ongoing process and one we hope to continue on a regular basis.

USMS NATIONAL EVENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON-DECK COACHING PROGRAM- Led By **Charlie Tupitza** (on leave) assisted by **Chris Campbell and Stu Kahn**, had a successful response in Omaha at Summer Nationals after experiencing some difficulties in Greensboro. This Program is successful and popular with the membership especially those swimmers who are at Nationals without the benefit of their club coach or are self coached. This provides a valuable resource for a large segment of the USMS population that competes and support for those without a coach attending our premier events.

PUBLICATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE- Led by **Michael Collins** with assistance from **Cokie Lepinski**, has established a working calendar and is ensuring that appropriate content is posted in a timely manner for use in Streamlines and Swimmer Magazine. This group has also been very active in soliciting material from a wide variety of coaches in order to address the needs of all swimmers in USMS. They are also considering possible incentives for those who contribute material.

AWARDS SUBCOMMITTEE- Led by **Heather Howland** The Kerry Obrien award has 12 applicants this year and the subcommittee is working on developing a protocol for determining recipients. COTY nominations have also been received and are being reviewed at this time.

HIGH PERFORMANCE CAMP- Led by **Stu Kahn** selected coaches Stu Kahn, Frank Marchinkowski, Cokie Lepinski, and Chad Derieaux. They had received and number of applications and as of this writing were finalizing the selections. This is a program we plan to continue for 2013 and want to have the details for 2013 finalized by the end of October 2012 as well as promote it more aggressively through a variety of channels.

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Action Items

1. Select a committee to review applications and portfolios for those coaches pursuing level 4 and level 5 certifications. (By end of Convention)
2. Establish a calendar for submission dates for above items. (By end of Convention)
3. Create a scoring matrix for portfolios and applications for advanced certification levels. (By Dec. 1 2012)

Coaches Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, September 14th 1:30pm – 2:45pm – Biltmore

1. Chair Welcome- Scott scottbay@usms.org
2. Subcommittee and Task Force Reports
 - a. Certification- Stu/Scott kahnsxim@gmail.com, scottbay@usms.org,
 - b. Fitness- Dennis Tesch d.tesch@comcast.net
 - c. International Coaching- Heather heatheraleethea@yahoo.com
 1. Proposed Legislation for 2013 Convention- Team USA
 - d. Awards- Heather
 - e. Publications- Mike C mike@novamasters.com
 - f. Communications- Ahelee aheleesue@gmail.com
 - g. High Performance- Stu
 - h. Web Workouts- Stu
 1. 2013 Coaching Subgroups
 - i. ON Deck/Convention
3. Old Business-
4. New Business-

Fitness

Committee Members:

Marcia Anziano, Chair; Linda Shoenberger, Vice Chair

Mary Jane Caswell, Randy Crutchfield, Pam Dameron, Suzi Green, Ali Hall, Michael McDonnell, Kay Miller, Jon Olsen, Leslie Scott, Dennis Tesch, Greta VanMeeteren, Tricia Wallace, Lisa Ward, Kenneth Winterberger, Jane Moore (liaison to Sports Medicine), Jody Smith (V.P.)

Introduction:

The committee has continued to attempt to introduce a new Fitness Activity designed to draw in more Fitness Swimmers. Details on this will follow. We continue to support Go The Distance, provide monthly articles for the web site, and keep up communication with the LMSCs through our monthly newsletter to the local Fitness Chairs, or LMSC Chairs in the situations where there is not a Fitness Chair. In addition, we decided to make ourselves more prominent at convention this year by sponsoring one of the swim workouts, hosting a brown bag lunch, and sporting our new shirts.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

Check off Challenge: Hammerhead Aquatics Swim Team is the host for the 2011 Check Off Challenge. Jon Olsen, the liaison for COC has been supporting them during the year. This has gone well, and Jon has done a great job. We hope to have some final numbers to present at the convention.

Go the Distance: Go the Distance, now 100% driven by the Fitness Logs (FLOGS) and supported by Nike, continues to grow. The major support for this event has moved to the National Office. At this point in time, 6812 swimmers are using the FLOGS to track their workouts, and of these 3132 are participating in Go the Distance. This continues to be a great retention tool for our membership. Mary Jane Caswell continues to be the voice of the email issues, communicating with the National Office (Kyle Deery) and the participants in GTD. We hope to transfer this function at some point, as the majority of questions that come in on this email address are in regard to issues with the awards.

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Fitness Chair Newsletter: Ali Hall continues as our Fitness Chair Coordinator. In this position, Ali writes periodic emails to all LMSC Fitness Chairs. She focuses on fitness activities that are supported at the LMSC level in an attempt to get more attention to the Fitness swimmer at the local level. She solicits ideas for new programs and shares the ideas submitted by the various LMSCs. We hope next year to be able to use some of this information in Streamlines for Coaches as coaches are our link to Fitness Swimmers.

Web Articles: Linda Shoenberger continues to coordinate the articles for the web site.

More Presence at Convention: The committee decided that we needed to make more of a presence at the convention due to the fact that the majority of swimmers in USMS swim for Fitness. We have worked with the Coaches Committee to present a Fitness oriented workout, one that does not stress race pace training, but focuses more on things such as heart rate and exertion. At that workout, special handouts to the participants will be provided. The committee also will be wearing their new shirts stating "Be Fit, Be Fabulous". That is our theme for this year.

Brown Bag Lunch: We wanted to somehow get an informal discussion of ideas for Fitness activities and share this information among Fitness Chairs that are present or any delegates in general. We decided to do this with a brown bag lunch on Saturday. This will be hosted by the Fitness Education Committee, and anyone is welcome. Just bring your lunch and plan to hear about or share ideas for fun Fitness activities. Location will be announced at convention.

New Fitness Activity: We were unsuccessful at launching a new Fitness Activity this past year. We finalized all the details but were unable to get support for this project. We hope to move forward in 2013 with at least a portion of the planned activity and will discuss this further at convention.

Fitness Committee Meeting Agenda Thursday, September 13th 2:30pm – 3:45pm – Tidewater

1. Introductions
2. Check Off Challenge – review all bids, choose a sponsor
3. GTD – review the issues that occurred during 2012.
4. GTD – establish responsibilities for 2013.
5. Articles for Web – establish responsibilities for 2013
6. Workout at Convention
7. Brown Bag Lunch at Convention
8. New Fitness activity for 2013 – status

History and Archives Committee

Committee Members

Meegan Wilson, Chair; Barbara Dunbar, Vice Chair

John Bauman, Peggy Buchannan, Trisha Commons, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Paul Hutinger, Susan Nolte, Jennie Quill, and Jim Shaw

Executive Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki (Vice President Local Operations)

Ex-Officio: none

Introduction

The main goal of the USMS History and Archives Committee is to service our members by documenting and preserving USMS history. Various aspects of our ongoing work are stated in the USMS Rule Book, article **507.1.4** -- *The History and Archives Committee shall record, collect and preserve documents, stories, photos, exhibits, oral histories and other memorabilia in an appropriate repository and in durable formats to ensure that the achievements of USMS and Masters swimmers will be maintained for posterity. The archived information shall be made available.* The History and Archives Committee has been working very hard this year to accomplish these goals, which includes locating missing historical items such as Championship results, USMS IDs and birth dates. USMS

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historical data are stored at the International Swimming Hall Of Fame (ISHOF) Henning Library in Ft Lauderdale and on the USMS website.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The History and Archives Policy document was completed and is posted on the website.
http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/h&a_policy.pdf
2. Barbara Dunbar and Meegan Wilson wrote an abstract, *Masters Swimming From the Beginning*, and submitted it to the first International Aquatic History Symposium and Film Festival for consideration. It was accepted and H&A was asked to participate in the Symposium with an Oral Presentation. Two of our founding members, Judge Robert Beach and John Spannuth, gave the “*History of U.S. Masters Swimming*” power point presentation on May 10, 2012. June Krauser, our “Mother of Masters Swimming” was able to attend. Special thanks to Ed Tsuzuki, VPLO, for his help with the presentation. Following the Symposium, Barbara and Meegan have updated the “power point document” with additional names and added a correction note.
3. John Bauman is updating Ester Lyman's data through 2012 and continuing to digitize 1986 and 1987 registration files.
4. John and Barbara continue to locate, correct, and incorporate changes into the Top Ten and National Registration databases such as name duplications, name changes, errata data, and other registration errors. Previously published errata corrections in the Top Tens prior to 1993 continue to be located for incorporation into the Top Ten online database.
5. Barbara has requested the addition of Legacy IDs to the Club Assistant database. Anna Lea Matysek, USMS Membership Director, has linked duplicate IDs to old legacy IDs on the USMS website. Chris Stevenson, Chair of the Records and Tabulation Committee, has been correcting errors in the Top Ten database as they are verified by H&A. Jim Matysek, USMS Webmaster/IT Director, has been searching and eliminating recurring errors in permanent IDs.
6. Barbara and Cheryl Gettelfinger continue the search for Long Distance and Open Water National Championship results (1986 have been located) for posting onto the USMS web site and for clearer copies of pool National Championship results previously posted. We continue to scan the One Hour Postal swims for online posting.
7. Barbara and Meegan continue to add new stories, proof and correct stories added to the H&A stories page from outside sources, and to update existing stories posted on the H&A stories page of the USMS website. Cheryl Gettelfinger and Trisha Commons are currently working on writing new stories.
8. Susan Nolte is checking stories for any new link problems, and determining what USMS SWIMMER magazine links are missing in stories where applicable. USMS SWIMMER stories of individual USMS members can now be linked directly to the swimmer's page 12 months after the story has been published, as per 2011 convention minutes.
9. Meegan has searched convention documents, digitized by Meg Smath, and submitted historical rules changes to Kathy Casey, Rules Chair, as requested.
10. Meegan has scanned six more USMS scrapbooks and re-archived them at the ISHOF Henning library along with other items.
11. Meegan is searching for and compiling a history of convention delegates.
12. Chair Meegan Wilson and Vice Chair Barbara Dunbar communicate regularly to deal with miscellaneous History and Archives business.

Action Items

1. None at this time.

History and Archives Committee Agenda Thursday, September 13th 4:00pm – 5:15pm – Links

1. Call History & Archive Meeting to Order, Sept. 15, 2011, Thursday, 4-5:15 pm
2. Roll Call - Meegan Wilson (C), Barbara Dunbar (VC), John Bauman, Peggy Buchannan, Trisha Commons, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Paul Hutinger, Susan Nolte, Jennie (Catherine) Quill, Jim Shaw and Executive Liaison Ed Tsuzuki (VPLO)
3. Introduce and welcome new delegates.
4. Discuss the status of current projects.
5. Discuss other web projects, timelines, and priorities.
6. Adjourn

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Legislation

Committee Members

Sean Fitzgerald, Chair; Debbie Morrin-Nordlund, Vice Chair
Joan Alexander, Marcia Anziano, Daniel Cox, Barbara Delanois, Peter Guadagni, Mary Hull, Cathy Kohn, Arni Litt, Jane Masters, Jim Shaw, Meg Smath, Skip Thompson, Meegan Wilson
Appointed: Rob Copeland, Erin Sullivan
Ex-Officio: Kathrine Casey, Susan Ehringer, Michael Heather, Patty Miller

Introduction

2012 is an “off-year” for Legislation Amendments. There are 4 legislation emergency amendment proposals which can be found in another section of this handbook and on the USMS website. We anticipate a few emergency amendments to be proposed by standing committees at the Convention.

The primary focus of the Legislation committee is to review and recommend proposed amendments for the “dry rules” of USMS. We are also responsible for ensuring that our members understand our code. Understanding the legislation ensures that the business conducted is compliant with USMS regulations and bylaws.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Review the Legislation Committee Operating Policies and Procedures
2. Discuss the 4 proposals received by the committee.

Action Items

1. The nature of the Legislation Committee does not lend itself to “Actionable” items outside of the convention.
2. Emergency amendments will be handled at the 2012 Convention while other items will wait for the 2013 Convention.

Legislation Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 Thursday, September 13th 4:00pm – 5:15pm – Meadowbrook

Meeting #2 Friday, September 14th 12:00pm – 1:15pm - Meadowbrook

1. Discuss the 4 Legislation Proposals
2. Discuss any proposals brought forth at Convention
3. Update the Legislation Committee Operating Policies and Procedures

LMSC Development Committee

Committee Members

Paige Buehler, Chair; Rob Copeland, Vice Chair
Stacy Broncucia, Jeff Strahota, Jerry Clark, Daniel Cox, Wes Edwards, Michael Moore, Tyler Blessing, Mary Hull, Lianne Crittenden, Doug Garcia, Syd Latina, Chris McGiffin, Lynn Morrison, Rick Noeth, Barbara Protzman, Rich Seibert, Erin Sullivan, Hans VanMeeteren
Ex-Officio: Ed Tsuzuki

Introduction

The LMSC Development Committee is chartered to provide educational opportunities and mentoring for LMSCs to strengthen their governance and operations. It also must review and identify LMSCs that are not meeting LMSC standards as defined by the Board of Directors and assist them in achieving compliance. Lastly, it has jurisdiction over changes to LMSC/Zone boundaries (Appendix D).

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Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

- 1. Committee Structure:** Following 2011 convention President Nadine Day added Zone Chairs to the committee membership increasing it to 21 people. This allowed us to restructure the committee to focus on three areas with sub-committees to manage and deliver projects.
 - Mentoring – responsible for working with LMSCs, especially those struggling to meet LMSC Standards, determining criteria for convention grants, and communicating LMSC Standards survey results.
 - Education – responsible for identifying and/or creating, and managing LMSC volunteer workshops at the annual meeting/convention and determining other methods for year-round education to assist LMSCs.
 - Survey – responsible for determining LMSCs' performance against LMSC Standards efficiently and effectively and for administering and collating convention workshop evaluations.
- 2. LMSC Standards:** The committee put significant work into proposing LMSC Standards policy revisions and updates to the Board of Directors. Some of the changes came out of the previous survey cycle to make standards more measurable and clear. Some were the result of processes that had changed, such as the LMSC treasurers now having access to the registration system of record (Club Assistant) to run reports. And some were requested by other committees: Records and Tabulation added standards that tied into the new sanctioning and meet database processes, and Governance asked to add and modify standards in the Bylaws section. The updated policy was published to the LMSCs in early February. There was some feedback especially regarding the addition of vice-chair to the list of required positions and regarding references to rules where re-numbering had occurred in the section covering remediation (the former was retained and the latter was fixed). The current version of the LMSC Standards policy is dated 3/27/12 and is available in the Guide to Operations on the USMS website, specifically at http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/gto_lmsc_standards.pdf.
- 3. Committee Policies:** The next project was to develop committee policies mostly concerning the standards surveying process and submissions to make changes to LMSC/Zone boundaries. There was a lot of discussion in how to disseminate the results of the LMSC standards evaluations with a lot of thought going into how to have results be timely and transparent while not impugning the efforts of the volunteer leaders or putting the LMSC Development Committee in a police force role.
- 4.** The committee has benefitted greatly under the leadership and expertise of Rick Noeth in streamlining the Standards survey process. As a result, surveys were much shorter and less ambiguous. They were also only sent to the LMSC chairs who served as the collection point for all the LMSC data. Information that could be obtained from other sources, primarily the National Office and the Top Ten coordinator, was collected. Lots of review from survey sub-committee members and sub-committee chairs made for a very solid survey and process; however, the cycle is a little later than in 2011.
- 5.** Chris McGiffin continued to guide the Mentoring subcommittee, comprised largely of the Zone Chairs, in wrapping up outreach with the LMSCs that scored lowest on the 2011 Standards surveys to ensure that 1) their scores were accurate and, 2) they had plans to correct the most critical gaps. Recently the subcommittee has been working on determining criteria to help Vice President-Local Operations Ed Tsuzuki award convention grants to small LMSCs. Prior to convention, the Zone Chairs will be communicating LMSC standards results to the LMSCs.
- 6.** The Education subcommittee is in its crunch period putting together convention workshops with Rob Copeland at the helm. The subcommittee has also been discussing how to broaden its reach to LMSC volunteers who don't attend convention.

Action Items

1. Approved meeting minutes from 11/13/11, 1/8/12, 3/11/12, 5/20/12, 6/26/12.
2. Adopted committee policies.
3. Updates proposed to USMS Board of Directors' LMSC standards policy.
4. Proposed housekeeping changes to rules 502.10 and 507.1.6 to remove the word "minimum" when referring to LMSC standards.

LMSC Development Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 Thursday, September 13th 2:30pm – 3:45pm – Pebble Beach

Meeting #2 Saturday September 15th 7:45am – 8:45am – Pebble Beach

1. Introductions
2. Survey subcommittee report

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3. LMSC Standards surveys – post mortem
4. Convention workshop evaluations
5. Education subcommittee report - Convention workshops
6. Mentoring subcommittee report - LMSC standards results communication
7. 2012 goals/objectives review & scoring
8. 2013 goals/objectives setting
9. Best Practices project – topics, timelines & owners

Long Distance

Committee Members:

Donn Livoni, Chair; John Traynor, Vice Chair
Bob Bruce, Heather Hagadorn, Ali Hall, Bruce Hopson, Susan Kirk, Karen Reeder, Phyllis Quinn, Tom Spence, Dick Sidner, Ann Svenson, Greta Van Meeteren, Jill Wright, Robert Zeitner, Ex O: Susan Ehringer, Ex O: Lynn Hazlewood, EC: David Diehl

Introduction: In 2012, the Long Distance Committee continued working closely with National Championship event hosts, ensuring the success of six Open Water and five Postal USMS National Championships. In addition, the LDC supports and enforces Part 3 of the USMS Rule Book, keeps the manuals and guidelines as up-to-date as possible, continues to recognize All Americans and All Stars, and develops new programs to help ensure the success of our events.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. **Rules & Legislation** – In 2012, many changes have been proposed and are under consideration by the LDC. The LDC has undertaken an exhaustive process to make the open water and pool postal rules friendly and inviting to participants while at the same time up holding the clarity, integrity and spirit of clearly written rules. The LDC had significant cooperation, inputs, and proposed rule suggestions from the Open Water Committee in furtherance of USMS open water swimming growth and development.
2. **Postal National Championships**
 - The *One Hour Postal (OHP) USMS National Championship* had nearly 3,000 (2306 online and 362 paper) entries. The number of online entries was the largest ever. The host, Blue Wave Aquatics, did an outstanding job. Results and awards were calculated quickly and accurately using Club Assistant's software.
 - The USMS *5K/10K Postal Championships* are currently underway at the time of this report, and the *3000/6000 Yard Postal Championship* forms and online entries were ready to go three months in advance of the Sept 15th start date.
 - Club Assistant's online entry and reporting processes have really helped the hosts and the Long Distance Committee to quickly and accurately facilitate the event entries, verifications, financials, and results.
 - Our liaisons provide pre-event support and post-event consultation to the event hosts and directors. They help the hosts manage the timelines, edit their entry forms, get up and running on the online entry system, create results, etc.
 - Future: We have standardized all entry forms (both paper and online) and will continue to improve the forms. The postal swims continue to grow in popularity.
3. **Open Water National Championships** –
 - The LDC is coordinating more than ever with all six event hosts to ensure adequate event pre-planning and operational readiness, post-event results reporting, and championship awards distribution. Likewise, the LDC coordinates with the USMS National Office staff for the supply of banners, USMS goodies and USMS Sponsor donations.
 - Our liaisons provide pre-event support and post-event consultation to the event hosts and directors. They help the hosts manage the timelines, edit their entry forms, get up and running on the online entry system, create results, etc. The idea is to bring USMS closer to the event hosts without getting in their way, and to begin to create a consistent look and feel of USMS- sanctioned championship hosted events (recognizing, of course, that each open water venue is very unique and will continue to be that way).

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- All six open water national championships used online entries. Our committee has noticed that results are far more accurate than ever before, and are rarely, if ever, corrected by the swimmers!
- Future: We plan to improve the LDC event liaisons involvement and consultation with event hosts. USMS Sponsors have contributed significantly to the loot that swimmers love to go home with and the LDC desires to grow the sponsors' exposure. 2013 will see six National Championships that are spread-out across the country to provide easier access to USMS members. Safety continues to be a high priority with the LDC and OWC. In all OW NC events, safety plans are critiqued and recommendations made to keep all volunteers, spectators and participants safe and preclude unnecessary risks. The LDC is encouraging all OW events to include cumulative relays (compiled by adding swim times after the event), hoping that this will help grow numbers and increase revenue. Swimmers on winning relays make LD Relay All-American. An informal working group is communicating with the Huntington Mile in Indiana to encourage them to offer a Masters 2-mile cable swim, thereby adding a mid-country cable site. The LDC would like to increase the number of such courses in the country to make such races more available to all swimmers. Cable swims are an excellent introduction to open water swimming for novices.

Action items:

1. Prepare 2014 bid winner summary for announcement at Convention
2. Continue to liaison with the on-going OW and Postal national championships.
3. Track, prepare and submit the 2012 All Americans, All Stars, Postal Series and national records to the website.
4. Evaluate and update host packets and standardized forms.
5. Prepare contracts for, and assign liaisons to the 2013 OW and Postal National Championship events.

Long Distance Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 Thursday, September 13th 2:30pm - 3:45pm – Victoria A

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair and Vice Chair
3. Announcement of 2014 National Championship hosts
4. Assignment of liaisons for 2013 events (training session TBA)
5. Rules/Legislation Proposals
6. Reports:
 - All-Star Awards & National Office (sponsorship?)
7. Recess

Long Distance Rules Open Forum Thursday, September 13th 5:30pm – 6:30pm –
Guilford G

1. Long Distance Rules Proposals Discussion

Meeting #2 Friday, September 14th 1:30pm – 2:45pm – Pebble Beach

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair and Vice Chair
3. Finish up any business held over from the first meeting
 - Continued discussion of Rules Items for Submission to HOD
4. New business: Other items
5. Motion to adjourn
6. Adjournment

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Officials

Committee Members:

Edward Saltzman, Chair; Pat Baker, Vice Chair
Charles Cockrell, Ex-Chair; Marilyn Fink, Secretary; Nan Destafney, Steve Goldman, Caroline Lambert,
Fred Pigott, Judy Gillies, Leon Kief, John King, Steve White, Mary Pohlmann, Erin Shield
Ex-Officio: Kathy Casey, Sandi Rousseau, David Diehl, Clark Hammond

Introduction:

The Officials Committee mission is to create a Safe, Fair and Consistent "Masters Meet Experience" for all Masters Swimmers across the country and within each LMSC; by developing a well trained, knowledgeable core of Masters Officials; through Recruiting and Education. The committee has initiated projects to provide these officials with the tools and communications they need to perform their functions while maintaining the highest standards expected by our membership. The committee has also been working hard to strengthen our support for the USMS National Championship meets.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

1. Established USMS Officials Committee Forum; registered all committee members and made it our main communications channel. Expanded the Forum to include LMSC Officials Chairs so that they may participate in the discussions and contribute ideas.
2. Developed and published the "Officials Committee Liaison to USMS Nationals - Roles and Responsibilities" document. Document defines purpose, involvement at Nationals, expectations, process description and timeline. A formal Liaison Report form was developed and included to capture best practices in a standardized format that can be passed onto future National Meet Referees for reference.
3. All previous Liaison reports were captured and posted on the Officials Repository for easy access.
4. Documented and published the "USMS Officials Committee National Championship Stipend Policy" which was implemented at the 2012 USMS Spring Nationals in Greensboro. This document defines the purpose of the stipend; How to use it; Roles and Responsibilities; and includes a sample USMS Voucher form. This guideline was used to produce a complete accounting of Officials expenses and reimbursements at the USMS Spring Nationals that was sent to the host and to the USMS Controller.
5. Revised the Stipend Policy to address part time Officials at USMS National Championships.
6. Ordered and distributed USMS Officials pins at both the USMS Spring and Summer Championships.
7. Developed and distributed a "USMS/USA Rule Difference Quick Reference Card" that was manufactured and distributed as part of the Officials Briefing each morning at both the Spring and Summer Nationals. The card was designed to be worn behind the Officials credentials for easy access.
8. Updated the LMSC Officials Chair Inventory and posted on the USMS Officials Repository for access by meet directors seeking assistance staffing their local meets.
9. Developed and published the "Application to Officiate" for the Spring (Greensboro) and Summer (Omaha) National Championships. These applications were posted on the USMS website and distributed to every USA LSC Officials Chair, USMS LMSC Officials Chair, and emailed to Officials who had previously worked a USMS National Championship during the past three years.
10. Worked closely with the Meet Referees for Greensboro and Omaha to establish requirements, track tasks to be completed against the liaison timeline (i.e. - USMS Sanction, USA Observation, OQM Application), provide information, and assist with recruiting.
11. Established domain name, built and published the USMS Officials Committee Repository to provide a centralized location for Officials to find documents to run Masters Meets; Latest rule interpretations;

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Briefing documents; etc. The repository will also serve as a launch platform for the Officials Committee Recruiting, Training and Education efforts.

Action Items:

1. Assignment of OC Liaisons for the 2013 USMS Spring and Summer Nationals.
2. Finalize Training and Testing documents for the USMS Officials Certification Process.
3. Assign Training Coordinator and develop backend support structure and tracking mechanisms.
4. Work with the USMS Championship Committee to revisit financial support requirements for Officials at National Championships.

Officials Committee Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 11:45am - 1:00pm – Tidewater

1. Approve minutes from last meeting
2. Approve 2013 Budget Request
3. Discuss Liaison assignments for the 2013 Nationals Championships
 - A. Indianapolis - May 9-12, 2013
 - B. Mission Viejo - August 7-11, 2013
4. Discuss open issues about Officials Committee Support for National Championships
 - A. Goldman proposal - assignment and financial support recommendations
5. Discuss Training program status
 - A. Assign Training Coordinator
 - B. Assign Training sub-committee to develop backend systems
 - C. Discuss launch
 - D. Discuss request from Open Water to collaborate on development of O/W Officials education/training/certification program
6. New Business

Open Water

Committee Members

Lynn Hazlewood, Chair; Frank Marcinkowski, Vice Chair

Lisa Bennett, Bob Bruce, Chuck Burr, Glenda Carroll, Malcolm Cooper, Viki Hill, Laurie Hug, Chris Lundie, Sue Nutty, John Traynor, Jim Wheeler

Ex-Officio: Dave Diehl (EC Liaison), Donn Livoni (LD Chair)

Introduction

Mission

To "...promote the development of and participation in open water swimming..." (*Article 507.1.9, 2012 USMS Rule Book, page 93*)

Objectives

1. To nurture the development and growth of USMS sanctioned events.
2. To ensure the safety and proper management of open water events.
3. To develop education and training programs for open water event officials and swimmers.
4. To create member benefits for open water swimmers and incentives for administrators.

Projects

The projects presented in the following section are intended to create an integrated whole that will support USMS open water development. Many of these projects impact more than one Objective. Therefore, any decisions on individual projects (i.e. to move forward or abandon, change or leave the same, raise or lower priority, invest or withhold resources, etc.) should consider how the decision may impact the individual project, related projects and the Objectives they support.

The following chart shows the projected associations between Projects and Objectives.

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Chart of Associations Between Projects and Objectives

	Event Development	Event Safety	Education & Training	Benefits & Incentives
Event Support	X	X	X	
Safety Program	X	X	X	
Webinars for Event Officials	X	X	X	
Zone Championships/Series	X			X
Swimmer Clinics	X	X	X	X
Other Sanction Types	X			X
OW Service Award				X
Event Results Database	X			X
Swimmer Ranking System	X			X
Swimmer Challenge System	X			X
OW Manual Update	X	X	X	
Rules and Legislation	X	X		X
One-Event Registration	X			X
Marketing and Promotion	X	X	X	X
Communications Plan	X	X	X	X
Inter-committee Collaboration	X	X	X	X

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The following projects will be the subject of discussion at convention meetings—roughly in the order presented here. Support documents for some of the projects will be posted as attachments on the convention web site prior to convention.

1. **Event Support:** Provide a contact point for Event Directors and LMSC sanction officials on any aspect of USMS-sanctioned open water event organization, sanctions, operations and safety risk management. *Status: Ongoing (assistance can be reached at owsupport@usms.org).*
2. **Safety Program:** Create a Nationwide Safety Program that will ensure that USMS sanctioned events are run in a safe manner and safety guidelines are consistent with industry standards. *Status: The idea has been discussed with the Board of Directors and a concept document is in development for presentation at the 2012 annual meeting.*
3. **Webinars for Event Officials:** Develop/coordinate event management webinars for event officials. Initial offering will be how to plan and run an open water event. *Status: Currently preparing a draft bullet outline of webinar topics.*
4. **OW Zone Championships/Series:** Promote the formation of annually designated USMS Open Water Zone Championship events and/or Event Series for each of the eight USMS Zones. *Status: Draft proposal is in development for distribution to Zones for convention discussion.*
5. **Swimmer Clinics:** Promote the creation of open water swimmer clinics aimed at teaching participants to swim safely and successfully in open water. *Status: A clinic manual is being developed that contains a section on how to put on an open water clinic and a section that includes an update of the 2001 Open Water Clinic Manual. A pilot project was initiated in 2012 that offers \$500 grants for clinics attached to National OW Championship events. The pilot program will be expanded to include Zone Championships in 2013.*
6. **Other Sanction Types:** Create definitions of other types of sanctions that will enable USMS to implement Article 203.1.1C. *Status: Development of definitions for two types of sanctions is in process. Type I is an Approved Sanctioned Event which will be open to events with independent insurance coverage. Type II will define dual sanctions with other governing bodies. The BOD suggested that the committee test the Type I Sanction with a single event to demonstrate viability before releasing the guidelines for others to use.*
7. **OW Service Award:** Create an Open Water Service Award to be presented for the first time during the 2013 annual meeting. *Status: Scheduled for after the 2012 annual meeting.*

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8. **Event Results Database (ERDB):** Create a specification for the data required for an open water ERDB and develop a data upload process. *Status: The specification will be ready by the end of August. Data upload will depend on discussions with the IT staff.*
9. **OW Swimmer Ranking System:** Create a National Open Water Swimmer Ranking System based on points earned in competition. Data for the system will come from the ERDB. *Status: Preliminary concept document has been completed and approved by the committee.*
10. **OW Swimmer Challenge System:** Create a National Open Water Challenge System that is designed to provide a series of challenges that can be achieved by swimmers ranging from novice to elite. Achievement in this system is based on participation. Data for the system will come from the ERDB. *Status: Preliminary concept document has been completed and approved by the committee.*
11. **OW Manual Update:** Update the 2008 Open Water Manual and format for inclusion in the Open Water GTO. *Status: Update needs have been evaluated.*
12. **Rules and Legislation:** Work with the Long Distance Committee (LDC) to prepare rules and legislation proposals for approval during the 2012 annual meeting. *Status: OWC has completed this task for 2012 and passed its recommendations to the LDC.*
13. **OEVT:** Work to achieve a widely available, competitively priced one-event registration. *Status: No actions on this project in 2012. Reconsideration is scheduled for 2013.*
14. **Marketing & Promotion:** Work with National Office staff to develop marketing and promotion for USMS sanctioned events and related products. *Status: Scheduled for discussion in 2013.*
15. **Communications Plan:** Develop a means of communicating on a regular basis with LMSC open water officials, event officials and open water swimmers. *Status: Scheduled for discussion in 2013.*
16. **Inter-committee Collaboration:** Promote cooperation and division of responsibility among the OWC and other committees. Ultimately, all products developed out of OWC work will have to find a permanent home after they go into production. It would be preferable to have those other committees involved as early in the process as possible. *Status: The OWC and LDC have been cooperating for the past three years. Early discussions have been held with the Coaches and Officials committees during 2012.*

Action Items

1. Approve meeting minutes for publication.
2. Create, staff and set goals for the following task forces: Event Development, Safety, Legislation/Rules, End-to-End Event Management, Clinics and Awards.
3. Work on projects as indicated in the status statement for each project listed above.

Open Water Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1 - Thursday, September 13, 4:00pm - 5:15 pm - Victoria

Meeting #2 - Saturday, September 15, 8:45am - 9:45 am - Augusta

1. Attendance
2. Remarks by the Chair
3. Discussion of items from project list (see Projects section above)
4. Bedtime story—*Life in the Tank* from *The Book of Awakening* by Mark Nepo
5. Adjournment

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Recognition & Awards

Committee Members

Sally Dillon, Chair; Carolyn Boak, Vice Chair

Andrea Block, Peggy Buchannan, Betsy Durant, Cheryl Gettelfinger, Heather Howland, Margie Hutinger, Cheryl Kupan, Hugh Moore, Ray Novitske, Walt Reid, Nancy Ridout, Kelly Sharitt, Laura Val, Robert Zeitner.

Executive Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki (Vice President Local Operations)

Ex-Officio: none

Introduction

The Recognition & Awards Committee oversees all of the USMS service awards even though other committees select some recipients. We accept nominations and select recipients for the Ransom Arthur, Dorothy Donnelly Service, and June Krauser Communications awards. We review and consider for approval proposals for official USMS service awards and maintain a history of the award recipients on the USMS website. The committee membership includes representation from the Coaches, History & Archives, Long Distance, and Records & Tabulation committees.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee held a phone conference in December and minutes are posted on the USMS website. The committee conducted other business by using the R&A Committee's private forum.
2. The first forum discussion asked the question: "Should recipients of USMS service awards be required to have USMS membership?" After a significant period of online discussion, a vote was taken and the committee decided that all three of the awards under our jurisdiction would only be awarded to USMS members. The other award-giving committees had similar discussions and, with the exception of the National Championship Meets Award, decided that their awards would require USMS membership as well.
3. The second discussion for the committee addressed whether we should change the location and procedure for when the initial announcement of the Ransom Arthur Award takes place. Historically, the award has been announced (and presented if the recipient was present) at the Spring Nationals. At the last convention it was suggested that the presentation was an unnecessary interruption to the meet and that a totally different venue should be investigated. Discussion on this topic was lengthy and many ideas were proposed. The committee's decision was to continue presenting at Spring Nationals when the recipient is present, but to just announce by posting the information if they are not. By the time that decision was made, plans for the Greensboro meet were well under way. In working with Jeff Roddin, a good compromise was made that allowed a brief announcement immediately following the second warm-up on Friday. President Nadine Day made a short speech and a photo of the recipient (Doug Church) was displayed on the video screen for all to see. The committee will consider a revision of their decision when they meet at convention.
4. Two other discussions are ongoing on the committee's forum. The first involves the Club of the Year Award and whether the name implies it is only for one year's accomplishments. The intention is that it is not and the information available on the award site has been amended to make that more clear. With the help of Ray Novitske, who will lead the selection committee this year, some changes were made to the nomination form to make it more user friendly. Discussion continues on ways to garner more nominations for this award. The second ongoing discussion involves the Dorothy Donnelly Service Award – and how we can generate more nominations. Some changes have been made to the nomination instructions and as I write this, I can report that the nominations being submitted are much more complete than some that I've seen in the past. A reminder about the deadlines for all USMS awards has been sent to LMSC chairs and vice chairs and I believe it has generated some activity.
5. **The 2012 Capt. Ransom Arthur M.D. Award recipient is Doug Church** and he received his award from USMS President Nadine Day at a meeting in Indianapolis. The other outstanding nominees were John Bauman (Wisconsin), Hill Carrow (North Carolina), Mike Heather (Southern Pacific), Patty Miller (Virginia), Kerry O'Brien (Pacific), and Skip Thompson (Michigan). All past recipients of the award (who are registered with USMS) and the entire R&A Committee participated in the selection of the recipient.
6. **A Policy Manual for the R&A Committee** was developed this year and approved by a vote of the committee. It is posted on the USMS website for all to see.

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Action Items

1. The committee voted to require USMS Membership for recipients of the Ransom Arthur, Dorothy Donnelly Service, and June Krauser Communications awards.
2. The committee voted to continue with the presentation of the Ransom Arthur Award at Spring Nationals, if the recipient is present. If not, a posted announcement would take place.
3. The committee approved its Policy Manual.

Recognition & Awards Committee Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 2:30pm – 3:45pm – Arrowhead

1. The official “Pinning” of the 2012 RJA award honoree – Doug Church.
2. Chair’s report
3. Budget review
4. Review of decisions made through forum discussion
5. Review of annual projects – the awards we coordinate: Ransom Arthur, Dorothy Donnelly Service, and June Krauser Service awards
6. Report from committee regarding the design and ordering of DDSA and RJA pins
7. Report on ISHOF and IMSHOF

A more complete agenda will be available at the meeting.

Records and Tabulation Committee

Committee Members

Chris Stevenson, Chair; Greg Danner, Vice Chair

Barbara Dunbar, Laszlo Eger, Emmett Hines, Donna Hooe, Ginger Pierson, Walt Reid (USMS Records Administrator), Jeanne Seidler, Mary Sweat, Mary Beth Windrath (National Swims Administrator)

Executive Liaison: Ed Tsuzuki (Vice President Local Operations)

Ex-Officio: none

Introduction

The Records and Tabulation (R&T) Committee is responsible for the process of recording and verifying Top 10 times, All-American and All-Star rosters, and USMS national records for all three courses. Increasingly this involves setting and implementing policies relating to the upload of Sanctioned and Recognized pool meets in the USMS Events Results Database.

In addition to a chair and vice-chair, the committee includes the National Swims Administrator, who collects, verifies and compiles Top 10 submissions from the LMSCs, and the USMS Records Administrator, who collects and verifies record applications and maintains the USMS records.

The committee works closely with the USMS Webmaster & IT Director for the online publication of lists, rosters and records, and to simplify and automate the compilation and verification of swim performances.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Ongoing: compilation and publication of Top Ten, All-American and All-Star lists, and the USMS records.
2. There have been five conference call meetings since the 2011 Convention, and the minutes have all been posted on the USMS website; a sixth call will probably be held in July-Aug.
3. The committee, in collaboration with Lynn Hazlewood (OW Committee), crafted a statement of purpose for the Events Results Database (ERDB). Based on this statement the committee also created several policies for using the ERDB. Details are in the 10/30/11 meeting minutes, and in the updated R&T policy document.
4. The Guide to Operations was completely rewritten in December-January. As the End-to-End-Event-Management (E2EEM) process evolves, the nature of the LMSC Top Ten Recorder’s (TTR) duties changes. In particular, the TTR is generally responsible for uploading meet results into the ERDB and usually generates Top Ten reports from this database. The LMSC Standards (updated in March 2012) specify that results from all USMS sanctioned/recognized events are to be uploaded to the ERDB within two weeks of the event (item

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S8/SS8 of the LMSC Standards). Timely uploading of results serves our members, and as compliance with this standard increases the “current event rankings” will better mirror the final Top Ten lists, enabling better error-checking and increasing accuracy. The Guide to Operations reflects the fact that uploading and maintaining results in the ERDB is now probably the most important and time-consuming duty of TTRs. Other aspects of the Guide were updated as well, and an additional “versioning” document describing annual changes in the Guide is now included in the Records & Tabulation section of the website; currently it lists changes in 2011 and 2012 and the intention is to update this document every year so that experienced TTRs can be more easily informed of changed rules/policies that affect them.

5. The committee reviewed the case of the 2011 Canadian National SCM Championship, attended by 39 USMS members who swam 202 events; two valid world records were set by a USMS member at the meet. The results were uploaded into the ERDB so that there was an expectation among some members that the meet results would be considered for Top Ten. However, the proper pool measurements were not taken at the meet and, per USMS rules, the times were deemed invalid for USMS purposes (Top Ten or Records). The committee voted against a motion to apply for a rule exception for this case.
6. The Canadian meet outlined another potential problem in using the ERDB to generate Top Ten submissions: this international meet was in the ERDB but did not appear in any TTRs list of meets to create a Top Ten report. The committee formalized a protocol for uploading results from a number of “major” international meets to ensure that they get into the ERDB and that they are submitted for Top Ten consideration in a timely manner. Current rules/policies state that for automatically recognized meets – i.e., those sanctioned by USA-S or another FINA-member NGB – the swimmer is responsible for obtaining measurements and notifying his/her TTR about the results. Assuming the measurements are in order, the TTR then uploads the results of that swimmer into the ERDB and submits them for Top Ten consideration. For meets with a substantial number of USMS members this process is inefficient and can result in multiple copies of the same meet in the ERDB. The committee came up with a list of meets which will be submitted in one block, the process supervised by a committee member who has “superuser” access to the ERDB (i.e., can upload meets for all LMSCs). The meets are: FINA World Masters Championship, Pan American Masters Championship, Canadian Masters National Championship, World Masters Games, and Y Masters Nationals. (Notably, the last meet is not an international meet and is usually submitted by the host LMSC, a committee member simply monitors the process to make sure that upload and submission happens.) The committee member is NOT necessarily responsible for obtaining the appropriate measurements but will contact a swimmer or LMSC officer attending the meet to see if they are taken.
7. Partly to address situations such the Canadian nationals meet, the committee crafted and submitted rule proposals to change the pool measurement requirements for results of USMS members competing in bulkhead pools in sanctioned international meets and USA-S meets. For the international meets, the basic proposal is that, if the time is suitable for FINA records, it would be suitable for USMS top ten and records. For USA-S meets, bulkhead pools would not need to be measured for the results to be considered for Top Ten purposes; the measurement requirements for USMS Records at USA-S would be unchanged. Two other proposed rules, which are not likely to be as controversial, were also submitted.

Action Items

1. Submit updated prioritized list of IT projects to the National Office.
2. Once the tool is available, create a tutorial about how to use the “dynamic records” tool to check for USMS records in a meet (Anna Lea) and add link(s) to GTO area.
3. Update GTO to include information about “record progression” policy; include information about when to submit record applications and when it is not necessary. Also disseminate this information to meet directors.
4. Submit Rule Book corrections, particularly to include page 2 of the pool length certification form in Appendix B.
5. Send email to TTRs to update national database of pool length certifications (eliminate old/modified pools, collect information to add new pools).
6. Correct GTO to address discrepancy about new pool length certification: page 1 says to send files to Walt, Appendix says to keep on file with the LMSC.
7. Ongoing: create/publish top ten lists (including monitoring progress of select “major” international masters meets), publication of All-American and All-Star lists, maintain USMS records.

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Records & Tabulation Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, September 14th 1:30pm – 2:45pm – Bear Creek

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting.
3. Discussion of rule proposals affecting Records and Tabulation
4. Summary of previous year policy changes and actions affecting Top Ten Recorders, anticipation of future changes in the E2EEM process.
5. Pool measurement database: current and future status.
6. Other goals/tasks for 2013.

Registration

Committee Members

Leo Letendre, Chair; George Simon, Vice Chair
Susan Ehringer, Katy James, Arni Litt, Deborah Malafsky, Pamela Ogden, Nancy Ridout, Greg Weber, Jill Wright,
Ex-Officio: Barbara Protzman, Robin Tracy, Susie Young, Michael Heather

Introduction

Registration Committee was dormant during the year due, in large part, to personal issues with the chairman's family. I wish to apologize to US Masters swimming for my inability to devote the time I anticipated being available when I accepted the position.

The primary accomplishments of the committee were to keep the online registration system functioning, due mainly to the efforts of George Simon and the staff in the persons of Anna Lea Matysek and Tracy Grilli. Modifications were outlined, vetted and tested by these individuals and addressed a number of issues that arose during the year.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The chairman participated in the Membership Products Taskforce which provided the executive committee options for additional and modified membership products.

Action Items

1. No actions items pending outcome of committee meeting.

Registration Committee Meeting Agenda Friday, September 14th 1:30pm – 2:45pm – Meadowbrook

1. Introductions
2. Discussion of current registration issues – Software issues
3. Discussion of current registration issues - Compliance
4. Discussion of needs to be address in coming year
5. Any other business

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Rules

Committee Members

Kathrine Casey, Chair; Leianne Crittenden, Co-Vice Chair; Matt Hooper, Co-Vice Chair; Kris Wingenroth, Secretary

Carolyn Boak, Charlie Cockrell, Sally Ann Dillon, Barry Fasbender, Marilyn Fink, Judy Gillies, Laura Groselle, Brian Hoyt, Robert Mitchell, Jessica Seaton, Kelly Sharitt, Ginny Trimble, Steve Unruh

Ex-Officio: Susan Ehringer, Rule Book Coordinator; Sean Fitzgerald, Legislation Committee Chair; Mike Heather, Executive Committee; Dan McAllen, USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee Chair; Ed Saltzman, Officials Committee Chair

Introduction

The Rules Committee has jurisdiction over Part 1: Swimming Rules and the Glossary. Since this is a Rules year, amendments to Part 1 and the Glossary may be passed by a majority vote of the House of Delegates if they are properly submitted and recommended for approval by the Rules Committee. Proposed amendments NOT recommended for approval by the Rules Committee may be passed by a two-thirds vote of the House of Delegates. Proposed rule changes have been submitted by USMS standing committees. None have been submitted by LMSCs. Part 1 is based on articles 101, 102, and 105 of the USA Swimming Technical Rules, which, as amended, govern all Masters swimming competitions. The Rules Committee will make recommendations to the delegates on amendments approved by USA Swimming at this year's convention. The Committee may also recommend that changes made to USA-S article 103 (Facility Standards) also be approved by the USMS House of Delegates for USMS article 107. There are seven USA-S proposed amendments that could impact USMS rules.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Proofread the 2012 rule book for the correct insertion of:
 - A. adopted USMS amendments
 - B. USA-S approved amendments that were adopted by USMS
 - C. reference numbers throughout the rules
 - D. corrections to the rule book that were reported throughout the year
 - E. additions to the index
2. Updated the "Differences" documents for Appendix B in the 2012 rule book (USA-S, NCAA, FINA, and NFHS rules differences) and submitted the USMS/USA-S rules differences to USA Swimming for publication in their rule book.
3. Submitted rules text for "Major Changes for 2012".
4. The chair attended the "Our Kids Initiative" (OKI) meeting at Convention in September, shared the differences documents of swimming rules between USMS and other swimming governing bodies, and reviewed the USMS rules included in the OKI comparison of rules for all swimming governing bodies.
5. Published articles in *Streamlines* for coaches that address the most frequently asked questions about rules.
6. Reviewed and updated the Rules Committee policies as directed by the USMS Board of Directors.
7. Reviewed the Glossary and all of Part 1 and compared it to the applicable rules of USA Swimming, the Meet Director's Guide and contract for national championship meets, and the Guide to Operations and will present recommendations for changes/updates to the House of Delegates.
8. Provided a Rules Liaison to National Championship meets to assist with rules questions and rules interpretations and provided information for automatic split retrieval for official times.
9. Worked with the USMS National Office and the USA-S Disability Swimming Committee on updated illustrations for USA-S article 105 and USMS article 108 which are a USA-S/USMS proposed amendment that will first be considered by the USA-S House of Delegates. Both USMS and USA-S owe many thanks to Victoria Grilli for her extensive artistic work on the updated illustrations. The chair also attended the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee meeting in June.
10. Established a subcommittee in cooperation with the USMS Sports Medicine and Science Committee to do further research on transsexual athletes and to make recommendations on transsexual athletic eligibility for USMS official times and competition based on gender. The subcommittee chair is Jessica Seaton and other members of the subcommittee are Carolyn Boak, Sally Guthrie, Mary Pohlmann, and Leianne Crittenden. All have extensive careers in the medical or legal fields.
11. Assisted committees with proposed rule changes.

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12. Began work with the History and Archives Committee and National Office to ensure that libraries of all past USMS rule books are available and that all past proposed rule changes and the accompanying rationales are available on the USMS website.
13. Answered all questions about rules including the following:
 - A.** For breaststroke, a swimmer is not required to take one arm stroke completely back to the legs after the start and after each turn. It is an option; “After the start and after each turn, the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs.” (101.2.2)
 - B.** For breaststroke, a swimmer is prohibited from taking a single dolphin kick before the first arm pull. “After the start and after each turn, a single butterfly (dolphin) kick, which must be followed by a breaststroke kick, is permitted during or at the completion of the first arm pull...” (101.2.3)
 - C.** A swimmer may appoint a counter for individual events of 16 lengths or more except for the individual medley (102.10.6A). A counter is permitted for short course meters 400 freestyle. Note that there is no warning signal for the 400 freestyle, because a starter or designee shall sound a warning signal in events 500 yards or longer (USMS 103.8.7). The count may be in ascending or descending order (102.10.6D).
 - D.** Whistle signals are required for starts (101.1.1, 101.1.2A, and 103.8.5A).
 - E.** Combined events cannot be called “Open” or “Choice” or any other such generic name. They can only be called events that are listed in article 102.5. Events of the same distance 200 yards or longer may be combined, but if the meet is to be seeded with combined events, the meet information must state that and list the event by the distance and the choices of strokes (e.g., free, back, breast, fly, IM) on the meet entry. Each swimmer must enter one of those strokes for that distance in order for the times to count for USMS Top 10 and records. Entering an event called “Open” or “Choice” will not count for USMS Top 10 and records.
 - F.** The meet referee has the authority to combine events by distance and/or stroke without the restriction of 200 yards or longer (102.11.2, Change of Program).
 - G.** Swimmers can wear traditional racing suits such as lycra/polyester briefs for men and hip-to-shoulder suits for women that may not be on the FINA-approved list if they meet the FINA swimsuit specifications: All swimsuits must be made from textile materials and have no fasteners except for a waist tie. Elastic is allowed in ends of the legs and in straps. A suit with a 2009 FINA-approval stamp would be legal if the suit is on the 2012 FINA approved-suit list. Two caps are allowed.
 - H.** If the primary timing system is three watches and two of the watch times are missing or determined to be invalid, the remaining single valid watch time would be the official time for that primary timing system provided it is supported by other information (103.17.3B[4]). (A swimmer is not penalized for the failure of equipment or personnel.)
 - I.** All four swimmers on a relay at a USMS-sanctioned meet must be members of the same USMS-registered club. If four members of a relay at a USMS-recognized meet are also members of the same USMS-registered club, the relay time can be considered for an official USMS time. From 202.2.1E: At a USMS-recognized meet, a relay leadoff split time can be considered for an official USMS time even though the other relay members do not belong to USMS or to the same USMS club as the leadoff swimmer IF the leadoff split time conforms to 103.18.1 and 105.2.2A.
 - J.** For competition at national championship meets, a Regional Club consists of a club made up of those swimmers who represent a USMS-registered club at nationals, but at competitions within their LMSC, they compete for an entity or subgroup (such as a workout group) that is different than the one they compete with at nationals (104.5.6B[1]). A club whose swimmers always compete for the USMS-registered club rather than for a workout group at every meet during the season is a Local Club for competition at national championship meets (104.5.6B[2]).
 - K.** An aid or device such as a snorkel is not allowed (102.12.1E, 102.13.9, and 108.1.2B[3]).
 - L.** In order to get an official time from a split at a meet, a swimmer must notify the referee in writing (e.g., fill out a split request form; 103.18.1, 105.2.2, and 105.3.6). (When automatic splits are done at nationals, the referee is notified in writing that splits are requested for all swimmers for all events except individual backstroke events; backstrokers must fill out individual split requests prior to the requested races. Automatic splits are done at nationals if the meet host and officials agree to do automatic splits and if the technology is available to retrieve automatic splits. Automatic split times from nationals are submitted for USMS Top 10 but individual split times may not appear in the USMS events rankings database).
 - M.** A swimmer who has legitimately transferred clubs close to the start of competition at nationals should notify meet management of that transfer prior to the start of the competition (104.5.4A[3]).

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N. The breaststroke or whip kick may be used exclusively or interchangeably with the dolphin kick while doing the butterfly stroke at any time during the race. Only one breaststroke or whip kick is permitted per arm pull, except that a single breaststroke kick is permitted prior to the turn and the finish without an arm pull. A swimmer can do any number of butterfly (dolphin) kicks before and after the single breaststroke kick during one arm pull cycle as long as it does not exceed one breaststroke kick per arm pull.

O. A minimum of two people can fulfill the minimum requirement of four official positions (referee, starter, two stroke and turn judges; the referee and starter cannot be the same person, 103.2.1). A referee must be certified as a referee or, if certified as a starter or stroke and turn judge, must receive training on specific duties of a referee (103.3.1). Uncertified officials may serve as starters or stroke and turn judges if they receive training in the specific duties of the assigned positions and serve under the supervision of a certified official (103.3.2). This rule addresses only the minimum requirements, not specific meet situations.

P. Dual sanctions can be granted by USMS and USA Swimming for meets hosted by either organization (the most common reason is to share resources). Meets can be seeded three ways; 1. combined (all swimmers seeded together as normally would be done and competing according to USA-S rules), 2. parallel (assign a set of lanes to USMS and a set of lanes to USA-S with separate stroke and turn officials for each set if possible and competing according to each organization's rules), and 3. interwoven (seed with complete heats of each organization and competing according to each organization's rules). Each organization must use separate warm up and warm down lanes. A USMS swimmer who is also a USA-S member but wishes to compete as a USMS member at a dual-sanctioned meet must declare so prior to the competition either by entering the dual-sanctioned meet with the USMS number and signing the USMS liability release or by submitting a "Declaration of Intent" form (found in the Guide to Operations) to the meet director and the LMSC Top10 recorder. (See Appendix B of the rule book for more details.)

Q. Neoprene caps are prohibited due to buoyancy (102.12.1E and 103.12.9).

Action Items

1. The Rules Committee approved giving its advice and consent to the USMS Board of Directors to suspend part of article 104.5.4B(2) to allow the long course nationals entry form for individual events and all meet information for the meet in Omaha July 5-8, 2012, to be published in the March-April 2012 issue of SWIMMER magazine instead of the May-June 2012 issue. (Articles in Part 1 can only be suspended between meetings of the House of Delegates by the USMS Board of Directors with the advice and consent of the Rules Committee and legal counsel [506.3.9]).
2. Approved as written; emergency notice of FINA/USA Swimming revised breaststroke interpretation (see text following #4 below).
3. The term "confirmation" in 105.1.7C means "confirmed by measuring".
4. Added the following to the policies and procedures for medical or religious exemptions for swimwear: The swimwear exemption letter presented to the meet referee at USMS-sanctioned meets must be that granted by USMS.

NOTICE TO ALL USMS MEMBERS FROM THE USMS RULES COMMITTEE

BREASTSTROKE Effective March 19, 2012

USA Swimming has issued an updated interpretation of the initiation of the breaststroke arm pull to conform to the FINA interpretation (see box below). USMS Swimming Rules: Part 1 of the USMS Rule Book are based in part upon article 101, "Individual Strokes and Relays", of the USA Swimming Technical Rules which includes the breaststroke rule. **The updated interpretation will apply to USMS competition (USMS article 101.2.3).** See the following text published by Dan McAllen, Chair of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee, March 14, 2012:

Text from USA Swimming:

"On March 7, 2012, FINA issued an interpretation of the breaststroke rule covering the initiation of the arm pull. Obviously, this interpretation also applies to correctly judging the timing of the single butterfly kick which may follow initiation of the arm pull.

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BREASTSTROKE INTERPRETATION

SW 7.1 After the start and after each turn, the swimmer may take one arm stroke completely back to the legs during which the swimmer may be submerged. A single butterfly kick is permitted during the first arm stroke, followed by a breaststroke kick.

Interpretation

The first arm stroke begins with the separation of the hands.

SW 7.2 From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall be on the breast. It is not permitted to roll onto the back at any time. From the start and throughout the race the stroke cycle must be one arm stroke and one leg kick in that order. All movements of the arms shall be simultaneous and on the same horizontal plane without alternating movement.

Interpretation

A pause after the separation of the hands is not a violation of the rule.

1. This interpretation is substituted for breaststroke interpretations issued on December 8, 2008 and April 14, which are hereby expressly revoked.
2. This interpretation requires “observable separation” to initiate the arm pull. No other action will initiate the arm pull.
3. This interpretation requires additional separation if the swimmer starts or leaves the wall after a turn with the hands already separated.”

Here ends the text from USA Swimming.

Note that the rules quoted in the box are FINA rules. The corresponding USMS rules are 101.2.3 and 101.2.2 respectively. The previous interpretation (any lateral or downward movement of the hands or arms was the initiation of the first arm pull) is no longer in effect and now requires observable separation of the hands to initiate the first arm pull.

Rules Committee Meeting Agenda

Meeting #1, Thursday, September 13, 11:30 am – 1:15 pm - Meadowbrook

1. Review and approve minutes.
2. Review the 2012 budget and 2011 expenditures.
3. Consider proposed amendments and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.

Forum, Thursday, September 13, 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm – Guilford G

1. Rules and Long Distance Open Forum

Meeting #2, Friday, September 14, 10:30 am – 11:45 am – Meadowbrook

1. Consider proposed amendments and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.

Meeting #3, Friday, September 14, 8:45 pm – 9:30 pm - Meadowbrook

1. Consider proposed amendments and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.

Meeting #4, Saturday, September 15, 7:45 am – 8:45 am - Meadowbrook

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1. Consider proposed amendments and prepare recommendations for the House of Delegates.
2. Review proposed tasks for 2013: Proofread rule book, update Differences documents, post current interpretations, develop situations manual or data base of frequently asked rules questions and/or common rules problems, continue collecting a history of proposed rule changes.

Meeting #5, Saturday, September 15, 1:30 pm – 2:00 pm - Meadowbrook

1. Consider USA Swimming amendments as approved by the USA Swimming House of Delegates and prepare final recommendations for the House of Delegates.

Sports Medicine & Science

Committee Members

Jane Moore, Chair; Sally Guthrie, Vice Chair

Hannah Caldas, Bill Ewan, Kristen Heath, Lisa Hiller, Jane Katz, Kristy King, Lo Knapp, Markell Lacy, Katherine Longwell, Jim Miller, Mary Pohlmann, Diane Rothenberg, Jessica Seaton

Ex-Officio: Jody Smith – Executive Committee

Introduction

The Sports Medicine and Science Committee works to educate members and the public on topics of sports medicine and science. The committee has held meetings via conference call every two months since last convention.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. The committee has worked with Swimming Saves Lives to provide screening for skin cancer and spinal alignment at the national championship meets in Greensboro and Omaha.
2. Committee member Laura (Lo) Knapp, DPT, MS, OCS and her colleagues Patty Trela, DPT, CMPT; Jacob Kretschmar, SPT; and Whitney Meier, DPT, OCS from the University of Utah Orthopaedic Center developed a poster titled “Masters Swimmers and Osteoporosis” that was displayed at the national championship meets.
3. The committee is working with Coaches Committee to develop educational materials on dry land training and nutrition.
4. The committee maintains the US Masters Swimming Health Network. Committee members serve as members of the network along with other interested medical and science professionals. Network members review articles with health, medical, or science related information before the articles appear in US Masters Swimming publications. Network professionals also respond to questions from US Masters Swimming members.
5. Committee members also work with other committees including Rules, Championship, and Fitness on issues related to medicine and science.

Action Items

1. Development of plan to create a web based version of the Health Network.
2. Ideas for health/medical/science-related topics and plan for production of educational displays.
3. Review and update committee goals.

Sports Medicine & Science Committee Meeting Agenda Thursday, September 13th 11:45am – 1:00pm – Pebble Beach

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Education: displays and screenings at national championship meets; other.
3. Health Network: review and planning.
4. Research Projects: updates from past projects; review of new proposals, if any.
5. Committee goals and work plan for 2013.
6. Legislation/Rules/Open Water Proposals: review any with science/medical aspects.
7. Other Business
8. Next Meeting
9. Adjourn

USMS Committee Reports & Agendas

Breadbasket Zone

Stacy Broncucia, Chair

Introduction

There's been some excitement in the Breadbasket Zone with Nationals being held in Omaha Nebraska this year after the Olympic trials! It sounds as though it was a complete success and I'm excited to hear about it at our meeting. Other major events that occurred were State meets held in Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri Valley, Colorado and Nebraska. Ozark held the Breadbasket Zone meet March 31st - April 1st. Open Water Season is underway and many of LMSC's have ongoing open water events.

We made it through the first LMSC Minimum Standard survey and are now working on the second. At this point not all of the LMSC's in the Breadbasket Zone have returned their surveys, but I am hoping they will all go smoothly and we will have good reports to discuss at Convention.

We still strive for a way to stay more connected here in our incredibly large zone. There still hasn't been any luck with getting that Zone jet we need so maybe we can work on a hot air balloon?? But in the meantime, hopefully we can at least get a link to connect our LMSC websites.

Breadbasket Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Bear Creek

1. Introduction and recognition of new delegates
2. Follow up on the success of Summer Nationals
3. Discuss ideas on how to link websites, any volunteers???
4. Discuss Zone funds available and how they might be used.
5. LMSC Minimum Standards
6. Award Zone Meet

Colonies Zone Committee

Jeffrey Strahota, Chair; Deb Morrin-Nordlund, Vice Chair

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. 2012 SCY Zone Championship held April 13-15, 2011, hosted by George Mason University Patriot Masters
2. Zone meeting held April 15, 2012
3. Bid solicitation for 2012 SCM and 2013 Zone Championship Meets (all 3 courses + Open Water); bids due 8/31/12
4. Solicitation for nominations from all LMSCs for Colonies Dot Award – Nominations due 8/15/12
5. LMSC Development Committee projects

Action items:

1. Zone Dot Award Nominations
2. Zone Championship bid collection and distribution

Colonies Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Edinburgh

1. Introductions
2. Approval of April 2012 meeting minutes

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3. Presentation of 2012 Zone Dot Award
4. Zone Championships
 - a. Pool Championships
 - b. Open Water Championships
5. Website/e-mail lists
6. New Business
7. Adjourn

Dixie Zone Committee

Jerry Clark, Chair

Introduction

As of mid-July, there were 6,586 registered swimmers in this zone. Perhaps the most significant event thus far this year has been the hosting of the Spring Nationals in a handsome new facility in Greensboro NC. 1,862 participants enjoyed having two 10 lane courses, which enabled shorter days for the swimmers, staff and officials. Thanks to Don Gilchrist and his co-director Hill Carrow for putting on a great meet.

Our zone championship SCY meet was held in Baton Rouge LA. Our LCM championship meet will be held in Greenville SC and our SCM championship meet is in Orlando FL this fall.

Thanks are expressed to the indefatigable Dick Brewer for managing the Dixie Zone website so proficiently for so many years. Next, Andy Dyer and Ed Saltzman have done yeoman work to bring the Zone records up to date and for maintaining those since they were brought current in the past couple of years. Last but not least, a big Thank You to Barb Protzman for continuously turning out a super zone newsletter.

I thank all the LMSC chairs for being so cooperative with updating their LMSCs to meet the standards the USMS board has recently updated.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. How to fund awards for zone championship meets
2. Monitoring our LMSCs to be sure the required standards are met
3. Creating an LMSC database of pool measurements

Dixie Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Pebble Beach

1. Introductions
2. Financial Report
3. Newsletter-Barb Protzman
4. Top Ten & Records-Ed Saltzman
5. 2013 Meet Calendar and Zone Championship Meets - Jerry Clark
6. Current "Hot" Topics - Anyone
7. Adjourn

Great Lakes Zone

Daniel Cox, Chair

Introduction

This past year we have seen the successful funding of the Great Lake Zone for the first time in many years. This fund will be used to support activities that support swimming throughout the Zone. I hope in the future we will have enough money to seed new meets or sponsor coaches and or swimmer to clinics. I will continue to move forward on driving more traffic to our web site and keep our members informed with my quarterly newsletters. The GLOWS series has become our premier event each year and I see it growing and has become a model for the rest of USMS to follow.

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IN THE ZONE: Lake Erie has or will be hosting a national event now though 2014 and possibly in 2015. This year Lake Erie hosted the USMS coaching clinic at the new Spire aquatic facilities and next year will host the 2013 Senior games SCY events at Cleveland State. Then in 2014 they will host the Gay Games LCM events at Cleveland State. In 2015 Spire has expressed interest in hosting one of the USMS National Championship. Looks like a busy couple of years for the Lake Erie!

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. GLOWS
2. OHIO adding and Open Water event
3. Funding the Zone

Action Items

1. Mentoring help for LMSC
2. GLOWS 2013
3. Other project idea for the Great Lake Zone funds

Great Lakes Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Arrowhead

1. Roll call and introduction of New Delegates
2. Financial Report and funding of the Great Lakes Zone
3. GLOWS Report
4. Newsletter/Website
5. Great Lakes Zone LMSC Updates and Mentoring
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn

Northwest Zone

Wes Edwards, Chair

Committee Members: Paige Buehler, Lisa Dahl, Wes Edwards (Chair), Donn Livoni, Hugh Moore, Paula Moores, Jeanne Teisher, Dennis Tesch, Joanne Wainwright, Sara Welch.

Introduction: During the previous year, the Northwest Zone hosted, or will host, Zone championship events in all four event types (SCM, SCY, OW, and LCM). Zone conference calls were conducted on a quarterly basis. The USMS Northwest Zone Discussion Forum page was used to enhance communications within the Zone. The Zone currently has 3,854 registered members, with OR and PN each having over 1000 members each.

Discussions and projects since the last convention:

1. Zone Championship Meets
 - a. SCM – Oregon LMSC hosted the SCM Zone Meet November 5-6 in Beaverton, OR at the Tualatin Hills Aquatic Center.
 - b. SCY – Inland Northwest LMSC hosted the 2012 SCY Zone Meet March 30-April 1 in Moscow, ID as part of their LMSC championship event.
 - c. Open Water – Utah LMSC will host the Zone Open Water 1-Mile Championship August 11th at Deer Creek Reservoir, UT.
 - d. LCM – Oregon LMSC will host the Zone LCM Meet at Mt Hood Community College in Gresham, OR August 24-26.
2. Zone Conference Calls: Quarterly Zone conference calls took place in December and March
3. LMSC Leadership Changes: Wes Edwards is stepping down as the Northwest Zone Chair effective July 15, 2012 and the LMSC Chairs unanimously support Tim Waud from Oregon LMSC as the appointed replacement to fill his unexpired term.
4. The Zone is scheduled to provide funding assistance for three delegates from small LMSCs to attend the

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2012 USMS Convention in Greensboro, NC (one each from Alaska, Inland Northwest and Montana).

Action items:

1. Introduction of new Northwest Zone Chair to convention delegates.
2. Discuss Zone funding assistance for small LMSC convention delegates
3. Discuss order of events schedule used for Zone championship pool events

Northwest Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – St Andrews

1. Introductions - New Zone Chair
2. Old Business
 - a. 2012-13 Zone championship meet update
 - i. 2012 SCM – Pacific Northwest LMSC Oct 20-21. Meet information and entry form due at this meeting
 - ii. 2013 SCY – Oregon LMSC. Meet information and entry form due no later than January 15th
 - iii. 2013 LCM – Oregon LMSC. Gil Young Memorial Meet. Meet information and entry due no later than May 15th
 - iv. 2013 OW – Alaska LMSC. Event information and entry form due no later than May 15th
 - v. 2013 SCM – Open for bid to other than Oregon and Pacific Northwest LMSC. Bids due to Zone Chair no later than September 1st
 - b. Update on Zone newsletter
 - c. Update on Zone conference calls
 - d. 2013 Convention - Small LMSCs scheduled for Zone funding assistance
 - i. Snake River
 - ii. Utah
 - iii. Alaska
3. New Business
 - a. Financial Report
 - b. Committee report on Zone funding assistance to Small LMSC Delegates
 - c. Discuss order of events schedule used for Zone championship pool events
 - d. Election – USMS at-large Director representing the Northwest Zone
4. LMSC Reports
 - a. Alaska
 - b. Inland Northwest
 - c. Montana
 - d. Oregon
 - e. Pacific Northwest
 - f. Snake River
 - g. Utah
5. USMS Committee Member Reports and Issues
 - a. LMSC Minimum Standards and Surveys
 - b. Other USMS Committee member reports
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn

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Oceana Zone Committee

Michael Moore, Chair

Introduction

The Oceana Zone includes Hawaii LMSC and Pacific LMSC. The committee meets annually at the U.S. Masters Swimming convention and conducts other business as needed by email.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

The two LMSC only share a contiguous ocean. Both are fairly well run LMSCs and have shown mild growth. We do not have any projects.

Action Items

1. Vote on candidate for At-Large Board of Directors position

Oceana Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Pinehurst

1. Introductions
2. Reports the LMSCs
3. Hearing from Jim Clemmons (announced candidate) and any other candidate for the At-Large Board of Director position
4. Voting for support for a candidate for the At-Large Board of Directors position.
5. Review of proposed Rules and Legislation changes that may be of interest to the Zone.
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

South Central Zone Committee

Tyler Blessing, Chair

Introduction

This is a committee that meets annually at convention and conducts any other business deemed necessary by email during the year. It is comprised of the delegates from the following six LMSCs. (Arkansas, Border, North Texas, Oklahoma, South Texas and Gulf)

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. 2012 SCY Zone Championship held at (North Texas) CISD Aquatics
2. 2012 LCM Zone Championships held Aug 10-12 at (South Texas) Palo Alto College

Action Items

1. Propose adding a SCM championship along with existing SCY and LCM
2. Review updated zone policies

South Central Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Olympia

1. Award the 2013 Zone Championship meets.
2. Discuss LMSC standards survey responses and participation.
3. Finalize 2012-2013 calendar
4. Discuss valuable usage of excess LMSC funds.
5. New Business

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Southwest Zone Committee

Mary Hull, Chair

Introduction

The Southwest Zone includes Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego-Imperial, and the Southern Pacific LMSCs. All four LMSCs have hosted meets this year. Arizona will be hosting the zone's Short Course Yards Championships. Southern Pacific hosted the zone's Short Course Yard's Championships. The zone has also had some open water swims and the Arizona LMSC will be hosting the zone's open water championships this year.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention

1. Reimbursement for team awards for Southwest zone championships

Action Items

1. Reimbursed Santa Clarita \$400.00 towards purchase of team awards

Southwest Zone Meeting Agenda

Thursday, September 13th 8:00am – 9:00am – Turnberry

1. Introductions
2. LMSC reports: Arizona, New Mexico, San Diego Imperial, Southern Pacific
3. Zone meets for 2013
4. Zone open water for 2013
5. Old business
6. New business