

Records & Tabulation Committee Conf. Call of August 2, 2020

Committee Name:	Records & Tabulation		
Committee Chair:	MJ Caswell, Oregon	Vice Chair:	Stacey Eicks, Gulf
Minutes recorded by:	Stacey Eicks, VC	Date/time of meeting:	Sunday, 8/2/2020 4:00 PM PDT

Motions Passed:

1. Approval of R&T Committee Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2020

Number of committee members present:	Absent:	Number of other delegates present:
Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair): MJ Caswell (MJ), Stacey Eicks (SE), Mary Beth Windrath (MB, National Swim Admin), Walt Reid (WR), Mary Sweat (MS), Jeanne Seidler (JS), Cheryl Gettelfinger (CG), Jim Izzi (JI), Chris Ottati (CO), Tom Patterson (TP), Ben Wycoff (BW), Ed Coates (EC, USMS BOD – VP of Operations)		
Committee Members Absent: Steve Hall (National Office), Jessica Reilly (National Office)		

Agenda:

1. Approve committee meeting minutes from May 24, 2020
2. Review Zoom protocols
3. RT Committee meeting for our virtual meeting will be held using Zoom and is currently scheduled for September 3rd, 2020 at 5:00 PM Pacific Time
4. Discussion of new policies for publishing or not publishing Top 10, All-Stars and All-Americans. We need to set criteria that is clear and measurable. See discussion notes.
5. Update on GTO updates
6. Anything else you want to discuss?

Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM PDT

1. Approval of R&T Committee Meeting Minutes from May 24, 2020: Motion by MB, 2nd by JS, Majority Approved.
2. Review Zoom protocol. MJ and EC walked through the Mute, Raise/Lower Your Hand, and Reaction functions.
3. MJ announced the R&T Committee Annual meeting: Scheduled for September 3rd, 2020 5:00 PM Pacific Time (8:00 PM Eastern Time) and will be a virtual meeting via Zoom.
 - a. CO raised hand – she has an annual meeting schedule conflict with the R&T Committee and the Membership Committee meetings. She is Vice Chair on the Membership Committee and will most likely have to attend the Membership Committee meeting versus the R&T Committee Meeting.
 - b. JS raised hand – she wanted confirmation on the September 3rd date. EC described how the annual convention committee meetings are spread out throughout the end of August into September. Some committees will have more than one meeting. House of Delegates Meetings are: Friday, September 25th, and Saturday – Sunday, September 26th – 27th (see schedule on USMS Conventions website). There is an Introductory Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday, August 5th.
4. Update on GTO updates: CG is working through list of backlog of items and is making progress. MJ has started a preliminary draft of policies.
 - a. MB raised hand – MB wanted to know the status of the General Guidelines document. MJ is continuing work on that document(s). MJ will prioritize work on that document and have ready for review at convention.
5. Publishing Top 10, All-Stars and All-Americans during COVID.
 - a. EC – USMS BOD is interested in having criteria that can be applied by the board to suspend (through a board emergency action) awarding All-Stars and All-Americans. The USMS BOD is also looking for similar criteria (for example, fewer than 10% of meets compared to previous year(s)) to suspend publishing Top 10.
 - b. MJ recommended the committee discuss each item (Top 10, All-Stars and All-American) separately. No objection from committee members.
 - c. Discussion on publishing Top 10:

- i. MJ thinks that if an official swim exists in the event database for any course, the swim should count toward a Top 10 time and the swimmer receive credit for it.
- ii. SE raised hand – She thinks Top 10 should be published for all courses and special note attached to the data/results noting the shortened season due to COVID.
- iii. CG raised hand – She agrees. CG had a question about if anything has been sanctioned since the COVID shutdown / have there been any swims that have occurred and entered since the COVID shutdown. EC says probably not.
- iv. CO raised hand – She agrees. Pacific has a SCM meet every year end of Jan / begin of Feb and many swimmers attend because they want those swims to count for Top 10. CO thinks the Top 10 should be published.
- v. EC – Shared that some on the USMS BOD have a concern that some swimmers would travel “inappropriately” to go to an event because they know they could score a Top 10 time. Not a personal concern of EC.
- vi. WR raised hand – He thinks USMS should be publishing all three courses regardless.
- vii. JS raised hand – The rule book is a promise to the swimmers and the rule book says Top 10 for each course published each year...All-Stars and All-American will be awarded. The idea that there needs to be a minimum number of swims to “qualify” for a Top 10 etc...then the minimum is one swim. It is important to value all swimmers and all times. USA started sanctioning August 1st. USMS recognizes USA meets without further documentation.
- viii. BW raised hand – He pointed out that often there are fewer than 10 qualifying relays in Top 10, so there is already a precedent and it is too late in the year to change the rules. He agrees with publishing Top 10.
- ix. TP raised hand – He agrees. There may be other parts of the world where a master’s swimmer resides with available events and those swims should count.
- x. MJ concludes that the R&T committee unanimously supports and recommends publishing Top 10 for all courses this year no matter what.**

d. Discussion on All-Stars and All-American:

- i. JS raised hand – Question about this criteria being applied to just this year or this year and all future years.
- ii. MJ and EC – Clarified: The USMS BOD request is for the committee to discuss and possibly implement for this year and all future years a policy and procedure to determine if All-Stars and All-American would / would not be awarded.
- iii. BW raised hand – Currently (even in a regular season) there are certain age groups and/or events where we might not have 10 swims. The situation where there may not be a large number of swims already happens every year. So, he does not think anything different has to happen this year or future years.
- iv. SE raised hand – At this point in time it may be premature to suggest or develop criteria prior to the end of the year and/or end of the COVID shutdown. This is an unprecedented year with COVID and it is not over yet and we shouldn’t consider the need to develop criteria at this time. Wait until the full year is over.
- v. CG raised hand – The year started with the ability to earn All-Stars and All-Americans and we shouldn’t change the rules in the middle of the year. Doesn’t want to do it unless the criteria was already established before the year started.
- vi. JS raised hand – She agrees with BW and CG. We shouldn’t do anything at this point. If this situation comes up again, we wouldn’t be able to announce it before the season starts anyway.
- vii. **MJ concludes that the R&T committee doesn’t support or recommend developing criteria for if or when All-Stars and All-Americans awarded for this year.**
- viii. MJ wants to hear thoughts on developing criteria for future years.
 - 1. No hands raised – No further discussion
- ix. **MJ concludes that the R&T committee will publish the data we have based on the swims that swimmers are able to do. Also, the R&T committee will still count All-Stars and All-Americans for those people that received those honors.**

6. Any other topics:

- a. CG raised hand – She has question about the annual convention Sched app meeting color-coding. Her zone has a couple of new delegates. EC – New delegates will receive an email and guidance from their Zone leadership about the meetings they should attend.
- b. SE raised hand – Question about what is the process going forward with the recommendations from R&T committee. EC – USMS BOD will be informed that the R&T Committee is not recommending any change to our current practice or policy. It will not be an action item for the BOD to continue to pursue.
- c. MB raised hand – Question about if the USMS BOD or Rules Committee can decide to waive the rules with our suggestions or Rules Committee suggestion. EC – The USMS BOD can within their Emergency Authorities suspend a rule, but it has to get concurrence from the committee of jurisdiction or from Rules Committee or Legislation Committee. The BOD prefers to have a recommendation from the committee that is responsible. If the board wants this committee to reconsider, the discussion will come back to the R&T Committee.
- d. JS raised hand – Discussion on process. Previous example on how recommendations are handled is unclear based on past example with a form change in the rules book. EC - The USMS BOD can act on behalf of House of Delegates, except for election of people between conventions. He is confident that the USMS BOD will take R&T Committee's recommendations and move forward.

7. SE Motioned to Adjourn, CG 2nd.

Tasks for the Upcoming Year

1. Submit Rule 103.18.2 change proposal to Rules Committee (MJ)
2. Refresh RT Committee Guide To Operations documents (Documentation Sub-Committee)
3. Update Top 10 Yearly Rules Changes documentation (CG)

The meeting was adjourned at. 4:40 PM PDT
