

<b>Committee Name:</b>	Rules Committee	<b>Session #:</b>	
<b>Committee Chair:</b>	Mollie Grover		
<b>Minutes recorded by:</b>	Julie Dusliere	<b>Date/time of meeting:</b>	18 May 2021 / 8:00 PM ET

#### **Actions Taken:**

1. M/S/A that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.2B for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.
2. M/S/A that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.5A(7) for the 2021 Short Course National Championships.
3. M/S/A that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.5A(7) for the 2021 Long Course National Championships.
4. M/S/A that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.4A(2) for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.
5. M/S/A that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.10C for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.
6. The Rules Committee is not providing its consent to suspend rule 105.1.2.

<b>Number of committee members present: # 13</b>	<b>Absent: # 0</b>	<b>Guests: # 1</b>
<b>Committee members present (list all, including chair and vice chair):</b> Carolyn Boak, Kathrine Casey, Julie Dusliere, Marilyn Fink, Christina Fox, Judy Gillies, Mollie Grover (Chair), Ian King, Claire Letendre (Vice Chair), Mark Marshfield, Barbara Protzman, Jessica Seaton, Jason Weis		
<b>Not present:</b> n/a		
<b>Ex Officio present:</b> Chris Colburn (VP of Administration), Charles Cockrell (USMS Legislation Committee), Terri White (USMS Officials Committee)		
<b>Ex Officio absent:</b> Bill Brenner (USMS National Office), Steve Hall (USMS National Office), Clark Hammond (USA Swimming)		
<b>Guests:</b> Jay Eckert (USMS National Office)		

#### **Minutes**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 pm ET.

Mollie shared with the committee members that the purpose of tonight's meeting is to discuss rule suspensions requested by the Championship Committee. Championship has submitted five rules that require Rules Committee discussion and recommendation to be submitted to the USMS Board of Directors.

Charles referenced rule 506.3.10 regarding emergency power to adopt or suspend a rule. Additionally, Charles shared with the committee that any suspension is only applicable to 2021, that the Board of Directors can not take any final action until they have advice and consent from the committee of jurisdiction, and that any action taken under emergency provision is only effective until the next meeting of the House of Delegates.

#### Suspend 104.5.2B

1. **M/S (Mollie/Claire) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.2B for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.**
2. 13 in favor, 0 opposed.

#### Suspend 104.5.5A(7)

1. M/S (Mollie/Judy) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.5A(7) for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.
2. Discussion:
  - a. Kathy shared that division by age group has been done at the World Championships level.
  - b. Chris stated that the intent behind this suspension was meeting venue/local/state capacity limits – i.e. limiting number of people on the deck at any given time.
  - c. Jay indicated that the final number of sessions will be dictated by the capacity limits at the time in terms of how many people are allowed in the venue at any given time. Details regarding each session will be clearly published by the meet host.
  - d. Charlie shared that rule 104.5.5(2) dictates older age groups swim first.
  - e. Discussion ensued regarding looking at only the five rules brought forth by the Championship Committee versus full due diligence regarding other rules that may come into conflict due to the suspensions.
  - f. Further discussion took place around issuing interpretations as needed for rules in conflict or impacted by rules suspended.
3. **M/S (Kathy/Charles) to amend original motion for short course nationals only. Amended Motion: that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.5A(7) for the 2021 Short Course National Championships.**
  - a. Discussion regarding timing of the 2021 House of Delegates meeting and the Long Course National Championships. Procedural conversation ensued regarding suspension process and impact of House of Delegates meeting dates.
4. 13 in favor, 0 opposed.
5. **M/S (Mollie/Ian) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.5A(7) for the 2021 Long Course National Championships.**
6. 12 in favor, 1 opposed.

#### Suspend 104.5.4A(2)

1. **M/S (Mollie/Claire) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.4A(2) for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.**
2. Discussion:
  - a. A foreign swimmer can request an invitation from the president as per rule 201.4.1.
  - b. The intent behind this suspension is to not exclude USMS members.
  - c. A brief conversation around historical numbers of foreign swimmers in attendance at USMS National Championships ensued.
3. 9 in favor, 3 opposed.

#### Suspend 104.5.10C

1. **M/S (Mollie/Claire) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension 104.5.10C for the 2021 Short Course and Long Course National Championships.**
2. Discussion:
  - a. The committee held a procedural discussion regarding suspension of the rule and any subsequent necessary interpretations that may be required.
  - b. The intent behind this suspension is to reduce the number of people on deck.
  - c. A brief conversation ensued regarding alternative solutions for ensuring a second back-up time is available to swimmers (in order validate records). Procedurally interpretations can be made regarding meet operations to ensure swimmers' times are valid.
3. 10 in favor, 2 opposed.

Changes to deadlines for Top Ten in rule 105.1.2

1. **M/S (Charles/Claire) that the Rules Committee provides its consent for the suspension of 105.1.2 for the 2021 short course yards and 2021 long course meters seasons.**
2. Discussion:
  - a. Rationale behind the change is to incentivize members with respect to attendance at National Championships meets.
  - b. Discussion ensued regarding fairness of the rule to swimmers, timing of the 2021 National Championships meets, implications of COVID on the current season, and that all performances are still valid for Top Ten consideration based on the age at the time of the swim.
3. 3 in favor, 7 opposed.
4. The Rules Committee is not providing its consent to suspend rule 105.1.2.

Action Items

1. Issue interpretations on seeding.
2. Publish guidance to officials on timing at National Championships.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm ET.