

USMS COMMITTEE REPORTS

CHAMPIONSHIP

Chair - Barry Fasbender

Vice Chair - Jerry Clark

Committee Members: Carolyn Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Ed Gendreau, Mark Gill, Gordon Gillin, Mel Goldstein, Errol Graham, William Grohe, Sally Maddox, Mark Moore, Michael Moore, Eric Neilsen, Barbara Protzman, Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Paul Smith, Tom Spence, Diane Stowell, Lisa Watson, Jim Matysek (Ex-officio), Jane Moore (Ex-officio).
Executive Committee Liaison - Scott Rabalais

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Discussions And Projects That Have Taken Place Since The Last Convention

2004 SCY Nationals in Indianapolis, Indiana:

The 1564 swimmers enjoyed a tremendously successful meet due to excellent planning by the Local Organizing Committee. The meet was staffed almost entirely by 150 members of the Indy Swim Fit masters. Sandi Rousseau, who was the meet liaison, was impressed with some of the innovative ideas such as an improved check-in form for deck seeded events and computers available to print out individual split results. The meet ran very close to the published time line. This was one of the most financially successful meets ever primarily as a result of two volunteers who were acquainted with the business climate of the city and raised substantial Meet Sponsor funds.

2004 LCM Nationals in Savannah, Georgia:

Lisa Watson is the meet liaison for Savannah. We experienced a problem in obtaining the merchant account for USMS that was to be used for on-line payment. At issue was the company's policy of how far in advance the customer can be charged. As a result, we had to modify things to allow for on-line entry and off-line payment. This delay had nothing whatsoever to do with the organizing committee in Savannah. An established national USMS account will make things easier and ensure timely availability of the on-line registration system for future nationals. There are 1,084 swimmers entered in the meet.

2005 SCY Nationals in Fort Lauderdale, Florida:

The Host will offer three courses for the 500, 1000, 1650 and 400 IM. The Host will be working with Debbie Cavanaugh, the meet Liaison, on the possibility of offering three courses for all events except the Mixed Relays. This would allow us to pre-seed all events except for the four distance events.

2005 LCM Nationals in Mission Viejo, California:

This will be a five-day meet. Mark Gill, the meet liaison, is working with the Host on the event schedule for this meet.

2006 National Championship Pool Venues:

There will be no 2006 National Long Course Championship because FINA awarded the bid to United States for the 2006 World Masters Championships. This event will take place at Stanford University's Avery Aquatic Center in August 2006. Jeff Roddin has sent out a letter to major aquatic facilities encouraging them to consider bidding for the 2006 National Short Course Championship. He also sent out letters to the local LMSCs requesting that they encourage potential hosts to bid.

2006 National Short Course Championships Bids:

Bid packages were sent to Georgia Tech; MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts; Bakersfield California; Sarasota, Florida; Gloucester County, New Jersey; Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi; Nashville, Tennessee; and Coral Springs, Florida.

Processing of National Championship Entries:

The USMS National Office processed all postal entries for the 2004 National Short Course Championships. The National Office and their staff were outstanding and literally eliminated all of the problems the Meet Host has

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when dealing with hard copy entries. This method essentially eliminated the Meet Data processing responsibility from the Meet Host. This innovation should spur others to bid, because it makes this laborious process of data entry extremely easy and less time consuming.

Nationals Meet Information in SWIM:

The format of the National Championship Meet Information that goes into SWIM magazine has changed this year. We replaced the four-page format with a one-page promotional article and three pages of meet information. The meet information now contains only the information that a swimmer needs to enter and attend a national championship. All other information is on the USMS website or provided to the swimmer at registration.

Medical Requirements for National Championships:

Thanks to our Vice Chair Jerry Clark, the medical section of the National Championship Contract has been clarified. We have been requiring more of the Host than necessary as a result of ambiguous wording in the contract. Jerry worked with the USMS legal counsel and the past and present National Coordinator of Medical Care for National Championships to resolve this issue.

Meet Liaison Handbook:

Carolyn Boak developed a Liaison Handbook that describes everything that the meet liaison needs to do to make sure that we have high quality national championships. This handbook is now being finalized and will be available soon.

LCM Qualifying Times:

The qualifying times (NQT's) for Long Course have always been much easier to achieve than those for Short Course. Also, the current method sometimes results in a faster qualifying time for an older age group than for the previous age group. The committee is considering changing the method for calculating Long Course NQT's. The method under consideration is 5th place in top ten + 11%.

Meet Director's Guide:

Mark Gill is updating the Meet Director's Guide.

Championship Rule Changes:

The Championship Committee will be proposing the following rule changes: (1) When women and men swim together in any event 800 meters or longer, the final two heats will be one heat of the fastest women and one heat of the fastest men. (2) When the 800 and 1500 are swum on the same day, competitors may not enter the 1500 unless they meet the NQT. (3) The basic schedule of events for nationals will apply to the national championship meets starting with the winning bids the year the new schedules are chosen. (4) The relay deadline is the day before the first relay is scheduled. (5) There will be two categories for team awards: club teams and combined teams.

Championship Committee Meeting in Indianapolis, Indiana:

Twelve members of the committee held a 1-1/2 hour meeting in Indianapolis during the SC Nationals. The following topics were discussed: (1) Preventing a long course nationals from being too long. The consensus was that we need several options to reduce the size of a LCN if we get a large number of entries. (2) Rule changes that reduce the size of a national long course championship. (3) Other rule changes that we thought were needed.

Length of Meet Survey at 2004 Long Course Nationals.

The committee is currently reviewing a survey prepared by Carolyn Boak that asks swimmers which methods they prefer to reduce the length of individual days of the National Long Course Championship. We need to look at ways to limit the size of very large National Long Course Championships without making it more difficult to have a financially successful small National Long Course Championships.

Contract with Hy-Tek, Ltd:

The Championship Committee, the USMS legal counsel, and Hy-Tek worked out an agreement for computer services. We now have signed a contract with Hy-Tek to provide computer services to seed and score USMS national championship swim meets beginning with calendar year 2004 and lasting for four years. The cost of these services is fixed for the duration of the contract.

SCM National Championships:

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We are working on the idea of a "tied-together" Short Course Meters Championships. Several Short Course Meters Championships would be held in different parts of the country with the times consolidated.

National Championship Evaluation:

We reviewed and updated the evaluations forms for National Championships. These updates will apply to all national championships starting in 2006.

2006 Bid Ambassadors:

Assign Bid Ambassadors to each potential bidder for 2006. They would help the bidders in developing the bid and presenting it at convention.

ACTION ITEMS

Contract with Hy-Tek, Ltd:

The Championship Committee approved getting a four-year agreement for computer services from Hy-Tek.

Telephones at Nationals:

Telephone companies are losing money on pay telephones due to the number of cell phones that people now use. People can no longer get telephone companies to install pay phones and in many cases are taking existing ones out. The committee voted to drop the telephone requirement from the USMS National Championships contract. The contract now only requires a phone for emergency calls.

Rules Proposals:

The Championship Committee approved five rules proposals to send to the Rules Committee.

National Championship Evaluation:

The committee approved the updated evaluations forms for National Championships.

AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th, 10:30 - 12:00 pm
Meeting Room – Scotland C

Saturday, September 18th, 8:00-9:00 am
Meeting Room – Great Hall West

1. Discuss all rules proposals submitted that affect National Championships.
2. Review awards and plans for the 2005 National Championships.
3. NQTs for Long Course Nationals.

HOD/CHAMPIONSHIP BID MEETING
Friday, September 12th, 11:00 - 12:00 pm
Meeting Room - England

Championship Site Selection Process:

1. A comparison matrix (similar to the one done last year) based on the bid applications and answers to e-mail/phone questions sent to each bidder will be available to everyone attending the Championship Bid meeting. Each attendee will also receive a pro and con list for each site.
2. Each bidder will have 5 or 10 minutes to present their proposal for hosting a nation championship.
3. After each presentation, a different Championship Member will ask about each concern for a particular bid. The questioning will then be open to the HOD for additional questions.
4. The Championship Committee will vote to recommend a host of each nationals by secret ballot.
5. The House of Delegates will vote the next day at by secret ballot. All bidders will be listed on the ballot.

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COACHES

Chair - Bob Bruce

Vice Chair - Scott Williams

Committee members: Tom Boak, Lee Carlson, Mo Chambers, Bill Cleveland, Michael Collins, Harry DeLong, Steven Fair, Paul Fortoul, Doug Garcia, Emmett Hines, Jacki Hirsty, Kris Houchins, Elizabeth Johnson, Wayne McCauley, Don Mehl, Eric Neilsen, Ed Nessel, Kerry O'Brien, Janet Renner, Frank Thompson, Tom Trapp, Robert Zeitner. Executive Committee Liaison - Scott Rabalais

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This Committee does most of its work in small subcommittees or project teams during the year between conventions, and convenes formally at convention to review work in progress, to establish direction for future progress, and to advise related committees, the House of Delegates, and the Board of Directors on pertinent issues. Since being named to chair this committee in November, I've had a slower start than I would like due to unforeseen professional and personal distractions. I commend the members of this Committee for staying the course with considerable skill and energy.

Ongoing projects:

- Clinics (Doug Garcia) – Doug continues to oversee both pool and open water Mentor Clinics. As of this writing, Mentor Clinics remain available for 2004.
- Olympic Training Center Camp (Nancy Ridout, Liaison to the Olympic Training Center) – We continue to work closely with Nancy to provide an excellent camp experience. The 2004 Camp was a great success (see Nancy's Report), and the coaches and athletes from this camp gave valuable input to improved content and scheduling as we begin our preparation for another superb camp in 2005.
- National Coaches Conference (Scott Rabalais & Mel Goldstein) – The presenters for Masters presentation track at the 2004 American Swimming Coaches Association World Clinic have been selected, USMS booth space has been reserved, and 15 scholarships have been arranged for Masters coaches. Due to the scheduling of the ASCA Clinic with the FINA Short Course World Championships, all presentation tracks including our own have been shortened this year, but there are many more opportunities than usual to learn from successful overseas coaches.
- International (Bob Bruce) – The USMS Coaching Staff for the 10th FINA World Masters Championships in Riccione, Italy, was selected in January, and worked long and hard at the meet itself in June. More than 6300 swimmers (including about 240 from the United States) participated in the meet. USMS swimmers present at the meet were delighted at having the coaching resources. We eagerly anticipate an active role in hosting the 2006 World Championships at Stanford.
- On-Line Workout Posting (Bob Bruce) – Three coaches (Mo Chambers, Nate McBride, & Jeremy Kipp) were selected and are posting practices on the USMS website during 2004. The number of website hits and swimmer feedback underlines the continuing popularity of this program.
- On-Deck Coaching (Scott Williams) – Scott coordinated the on-deck coaches for the USMS Short Course National Championship Meet, and will do so for both the Long Course Meet and the Convention practices. Scott upgraded the on-deck coaching shirts this year.
- Coach-of-the-Year (Skip Thompson) – Skip continues to oversee the selection process, most of which will occur after the July 1 application deadline.
- Video Library (Emmett Hines) – Emmett has reorganized and streamlined the process for video rental, and has added some recent titles.
- Book Library (Ed Nessel) – Ed continues to operate the book rental, largely from his personal library.
- Snooper Rental (Lee Carlson) – Lee continues to supervise the popular snooper rental, and oversees the refurbishing of the equipment.

Major Projects:

- Coaches Manual (Robert Zeitner & Wayne McCauley) - This project has been in the works for several years, and is now closing on completion. Robert and Wayne have done remarkable work collating a

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great deal of excellent information. This manual will eventually be available primarily as an on-line resource to Masters coaches. Hopefully, the momentum from this project will lead into the reworking of the ASCA Masters Certification materials and process next year.

- Clinics and Camps – The Executive Committee has recently asked this Committee to develop a comprehensive national plan for Clinic and Camps. We are just beginning this process.
- Coaches Committee Quarterly (Mo Chambers) – The size and scope of this project demands a larger group of content providers than we have had recently, and we are working to broaden the group of active contributors to this project in order to revitalize this important publication.
- Triathlon (Cindy Hawkinson, Liaison to USA-Triathlon) – We are in the early stages of discussing avenues for cooperation between USMS and USA-Triathlon.
- LMSC Coaches Reps – We need to update and revitalize this program that operates primarily on the LMSC level.

AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th, 5:30-7:00 pm
Meeting Room – Scotland A

Friday, September 17th, 8:30-9:30 am
Meeting Room - England

1. Welcome, introductions, and meeting plan
2. Ongoing project review
 - a. Clinics
 - b. Olympic Training Center Camp
 - c. National Coaches Conference
 - d. International
 - e. On-Line Workout Posting
 - f. On-Deck Coaching
 - g. Coach-of-the-Year
 - h. Video Library
 - i. Book Library
 - j. Snooper Rental
3. Major projects review
 - a. Coaches Manual
 - b. Coaches Committee Quarterly
 - c. Clinics and Camps
 - d. Triathlon
 - e. LMSC Coaches Reps
4. Allied committee and issues discussion
 - a. Rules
 - b. Officials
 - c. Long Distance
 - d. Other
5. Financial: 2005 Committee Budget
6. Other business
7. Adjourn

COACHES PRESENTATION

Wednesday, September 15th, 2:00 – 5:00 pm
Meeting Room – Scribe

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INTERNATIONAL

Chair - Sandi Rousseau

Vice Chair - Myriam Pero

Committee Members: Committee members: Peggy Buchannan, Hill Carrow, Irene David, Sean Fitzgerald, Mark Gill, Bill Grohe, Jacki Hirsty, June Krauser, Lilly Kron, Joe Kurtzman, Nancy Miller, Mary Pohlmann, Walt Reid, Mani Sanguilly, Susanne Simpson, Shannon Sullivan, Barbara Thomas, Anthony Thompson, Phil Whitten, Laura Winslow, Michael Moore (Ex-officio). Executive Committee Liaison - Jim Miller, MD

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The International Committee has many members having particular interest in international relations affecting Masters swimming in the world and international competitions. With the awarding of the 2006 FINA World Masters Championships to Stanford, we hope that this committee can accomplish several projects that will assist the Local Organizing Committee with promotion of this event.

Projects that have taken or are taking place during the past six months include:

1. Involvement in assisting with the United States Aquatic Sports' successful bid for the FINA World Masters Championships to be held at Stanford in August, 2006. Participation was primarily in communications regarding contractual issues with FINA and review of the bid packet.
2. Communication with Masters Swimming Canada and LatyCar (Latin Caribbean countries) regarding the newly formed Masters Swimming Committee within ASUA (Amateur Swimming Union of the Americas). Myriam Pero and I met with Jim Miller, Chris Smith (MSC President), and David Morrill (LatyCar President) in Florida in January, and have had continued communication since that time. A first official meeting of the ASUA Masters Committee will be held in Orlando on September 18-19, 2004, and this is a great step forward toward enhancing communication.
3. Updating Masters World Contacts: A subcommittee has undertaken the big task of updating international contacts for Masters swimming worldwide. This list will include primary country contacts and web site information. Several committee members assisted with staffing the booth at the 2004 World Champs in Italy, and it is hopeful that much information can be obtained from the over 3000 names collected.
4. Creation of an International Section on the USMS web site: Work is underway on this in order to promote international competition and to create a home for other items of international interest, e.g. customs and phrases for the international traveler, publications, etc.
5. Creation of a quarterly newsletter for distribution to USMS members: E-mail distribution is tentatively planned for only persons who request it.
6. Creation of an 'International Virtual Swim': The goal of this is to create another fitness oriented event for the Fitness Committee.
7. Creation of Core Objectives for this committee

AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th, 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Meeting Room – Cloister North

1. Call to Order
 2. Introduction of Committee Members
 3. Review / Update on Current Projects
 - o World Contacts
 - o International Virtual Swim
 - o International Section on USMS Web Site
 - o Quarterly Newsletter
 4. 2006 FINA World Champs: What we can do to assist the Local Organizing Committee?
 5. ASUA Update
 6. Committee Core Objectives
 7. Other Projects / Ideas / Open Discussion
 8. Adjournment
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OFFICIALS

Chair - David Diehl

Vice Chair - Charlie Cockrell

Committee Members: Bob Bruce, Judy Gillies, Marie-Pierre Graf, F.H. Ted Haartz, Jan Kavadas, Mike Lemke, Leo Letendre, Mark Moore, Eric Nordlund, Edward Saltzman, Joan Smith, Erin Sullivan, Frank Tillotson, Dennis Wilson, Frank Cheng (Ex-officio). Executive Committee Liaison – Sally Ann Dillon

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DISCUSSIONS AND PROJECTS THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE SINCE THE LAST CONVENTION:

1. Mailed welcome letter to all members of the 2004 National Officials Committee.
2. Mailed the "Guidelines for LMSC Officials" to all LMSC Officials Chairs.
3. Had a member of the Officials Committee attend the "Our Kids" initiative meeting in Chicago, IL.
4. Completed "Application to Officiate" for both USMS SC and LC National Championships and had posted on USA-S web site.
5. Collected and forwarded all 2004 SC Nationals "Applications to Officiate" to meet referee.
6. Collected and forwarded all 2004 LC Nationals "Applications to Officiate" to meet referee.
7. Answered questions from USMS members regarding officiating, as received.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Review USMS Officials Committee Liaison reports from SC and LC Nationals.
2. Continue to monitor and answer questions regarding the USMS Officials Certification program.

AGENDA

Friday, September 17th, 9:45 – 10:45 am
Meeting Room - Scribe

1. Committee Member Introductions.
 2. Review effectiveness of USA Swimming/USMS agreement for officiating at USMS National Championship meets (2004 SC and LC).
 3. Review the responsibilities of USMS Officials Committee liaison to SC and LC Nationals.
 4. Review USMS Officials Certification Program. Is it being used?
 5. Review results of "Our Kids" program (Leo Letendre attended meeting in the Spring).
 6. Review any proposed Rule changes, if available, and make Committee recommendations, as appropriate.
 7. Assign Officials Committee liaisons for 2005 SC and LC National Championships.
 8. Review "officials" information to be included on USMS web site (plus Swim magazine, etc.) including officiating scenarios and lessons learned as well as rule interpretations.
 9. New Business
 10. Adjournment
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RULES

Chair - Leo Letendre
Vice Chair - Kathy Casey

Committee Members: Tom Boak, Peggy Buchannan, Katherine Casey, Charlie Cockrell, David Diehl, Judy Gillies, Janet Kavadas, June Krauser, Joseph Kurtzman, Leo Letendre, Dennis McManus, Kerry O'Brien, Jessica Seaton, Anthony Thompson, William Tingley, Scott Williams, Kris Wingenroth, Bob Bruce (Ex-officio), Rob Copeland (Ex-officio), Don Hart (Ex-officio), Meg Smath (Ex-officio). Executive Committee Liaison – Sally Ann Dillon

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The Rules Committee dealt during the year with the normal inquiries concerning the interpretation of the rules. It should be noted that the number of inquires were lower than normal this year.

ACTION ITEMS

1. The Rules Committee took action this year in response to action taken by USA-Swimming. Changes to section 102.15.9 prohibits the use of personal pacing devices including radios. The committee also accepted the interpretation of USA-Swimming that watches are included in the prohibition.

AGENDA

Thursday, September 16th, 4:15 – 5:15 pm
Meeting Room – Scotland C

Saturday, September 18th, 9:15 – 10:15 am
Meeting Room – Great Hall East

1. Introduction of committee members and discussion of procedures.
2. Action to move submitted proposals to the HOD.
3. New business
4. Adjourn

RULES PROPOSALS

Open Forum

Friday, September 17th, 4:30 – 6:00 pm
Meeting Room – Scotland A