

## USMS CONVENTION – Orlando, FL 2004

Committee Name: **Championship Committee** Session # (if more than one meeting): 3 Cmte. report #:

29

Minutes recorded by: Lisa Watson

Date/time of this meeting: September 18 8 AM

### ACTION ITEMS PROPOSED EXPENDITURES

None

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1. **MSA to accept dates of May 4-7 for 2006 SCY Nationals in Coral Springs.**
2. **MSA to change Long Course NQTs to 5<sup>th</sup> place + 11%.**
3. **MSA to submit amended Rule Proposal R7 which allows the Championship Committee to require NQTs for the 800 or 1500, if deemed necessary.**
4. **MSA to submit a new Rules proposal that allows the Championship Committee to mandate 2 per lane seeding for distance events, if deemed necessary.**
5. **MSA to submit a new Rules proposal that states a swimmer may be pulled from an NQT event if he/she exceeds the seed time by over 30%.**

Committee Chair: Barry Fasbender

Vice Chair: Jerry Clark

Number of committee members present: 18

Absent: 4

Number of other delegates at this meeting: 15

Committee members present (list all): Carolyn Boak, Debbie Cavanaugh, Jerry Clark, Barry Fasbender, Mark Gill, Gorden Gillin, Mel Goldstein, Errol Graham, Bill Grohe, Jim Matysek (Ex-officio), Jane Moore (Ex officio), Mark Moore, Barbara Protzman, Jeff Roddin, Sandi Rousseau, Tom Spence, Diane Stowell, Lisa Watson

### MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at: 8 AM

1. **ACTION ITEM- MSA to accept dates of May 4-7 for 2006 SCY Nationals in Coral Springs.** It was felt that this alternative date would pose less of a potential conflict with 2006 Y Nationals, which will also be in south Florida in April.
2. **ACTION ITEM-MSA to change Long Course Nationals NQTs to 5<sup>th</sup> place & 11%.** This change will tighten NQTs from the current standard of 10<sup>th</sup> place & 10%. The committee felt that this could help to decrease the length of the meet, which will be useful particularly when anticipating a very large turnout next year in Mission Viejo. The committee can re-evaluate these percentages after Mission Viejo.
3. Carolyn Boak presented several additional Rules proposals for the committee to consider. **ACTION ITEM-MSA to submit amended Rules Proposal R7 which allows the Championship Committee to require NQTs for the 800 or 1500, if deemed necessary.**  
**ACTION ITEM-MSA to submit a new Rules proposal that allows the Championship Committee to mandate 2 per lane seeding for distance events, if deemed necessary.** This suggestion was made by a number of swimmers in yesterday's Rules session as a preferable alternative to requiring NQTs for distance events. One advantage is that the decision does not have to be made until after the entry deadline, and would only take place if the timeline projects the meet day to last longer than 12 hours. This rule may apply to all freestyle events 400m and higher.  
**ACTION ITEM-MSA to submit a new Rules proposal that states a swimmer may be pulled from an NQT event if he/she exceeds the seed time by over 30%.** The Championship Committee has tried to come up with rules to discourage swimmers from lying about their times, particularly those who may end up significantly impacting the length of the meet. This proposal hopes to serve as that deterrent. It is fair in that it affects all swimmers, not just a particular category. The Committee does not foresee having to invoke this rule except on those rare occasions when it is obvious that the swimmer is well behind his seed time and will considerably delay the meet.

4. Barry Fasbender shared some additional suggestions that had been proposed as ways to improve the efficiency of National meets. These suggestions include the following:

--Require swimmers who enter NQTS to have documentation from the referee of the meet in which that time was achieved

--Have an additional space allotted on the Nationals entry form for the swimmer to insert the time and date that each NQT listed was achieved

--Allow swimmers to check in for all events on the day of arrival at deck seeded Nationals meets. The swimmer must officially scratch any events he doesn't plan to swim. No Shows will be scratched from the remainder of their events. They may be reinstated for any days following the day on which the scratch occurred by talking with the administrative referee. Initial reaction of the committee was not favorable to this last suggestion.

5. Mark Gill presented his annual awards to the committee members who most accurately guessed the total number of swimmers entering this year's SC Nationals in Indianapolis, and the committee members who most accurately guessed the percentage of on-line entries at this same meet. Mark Gill was the winner for the 1<sup>st</sup> category, guessing 1562 swimmers, which was only 2 short of the actual mark of 1564 swimmers. Eric Neilsen and Carolyn Boak were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place respectively in this category. Jerry Clark was the on-line winner with a perfect guess of 72.25% of on-line entries. Lisa Watson and Mark Gill were 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in this category. The awards were lovely medals which seemed to resemble the awards given at the 2003 Nationals in Tempe.

The committee did note that it did seem quite coincidental that Mark Gill always seemed to win these categories. Final statistics for LC Nationals in Savannah were 1084 entries, with 60.06% on-line. No betting was done for this meet.

The meeting was adjourned at: 9:45 AM

#### TASKS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

1. The subcommittee formed at this convention will investigate ways of soliciting Nationals bids.
2. The Championship Committee will solicit bids for 2007 SC and LC Nationals.
3. The committee will further discuss the above mentioned suggestions on additional methods for reducing the length of Nationals meets and making them more swimmer-friendly.